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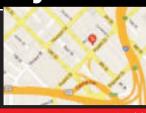
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Ghost Stories

The Chinese ghost scam brought a whole culture's beliefs into the open.

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Big Trouble in Little Spain

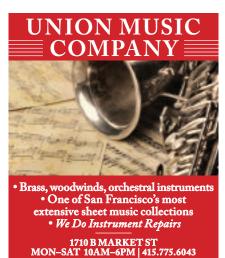
At Coqueta, culinary theatrics and celebrity aren't a substitute for good food.

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FLICKS NOT TO BE MISSED

Missing an important film festival from summer coverage: SF Weekly covers summer film festivals in San Francisco and does not mention the San Francisco Black Film Festival (SFBFF) [June 13-16]? WTF? Fifteen years in the city and the paper doesn't know it's here ["Summer Move Preview," feature, 5/29]? The paper has written about it before, they have advertised with SF Weekly, and they get no credit [in the film festival coverage]? Oh I get it, put a black face on the cover and do not mention the SFBFF; the paper needs to right this wrong!

DEBATABLY THE BEST

Article isn't music to this reader's ears: A poorly written article propping up an overrated musician ["The Making of Mikal Cronin," feature, Ian S. Port, 5/22]. Is the writer freaking kidding me? To call this hack the best songwriter in this city is outrageous and an insult to any number of artists that have called this town home.

BLOG COMMENTS OF THE WEEK

Why it's better left to the movies: The big problem here is that two grand is not a huge pile of money. That's one bundle of 20s ["Sex Atop reader comment of the week: SFWEEKLY.COM

bat two arand

"The big problem here is that two grand is not a huge pile of money."

-ABLEDART COMMENTING ON "SEX ATOP HUGE PILE OF MONEY PLAN GOES AWRY"

Huge Pile of Money Plan Goes Awry," Joe Eskenazi, the Snitch, 5/30]. It's barely enough to cover a pillow. Maybe he used singles? That might work if the lights were kept off.

Reader says soda isn't that bad: Obesity is a complex issue and is influence by a number of factors (including age, genetics, stress, and physical inactivity). To assign blame to one source of calories is incorrect, has no basis in science, and is counterproductive ["Marin County Asking Residents Nicely To Stop Drinking Soda This Summer," Anna Roth, SFoodie, 5/28]. In addition, the beverage industry encourages healthy, balanced, and active lifestyles by providing consumers with myriad beverage choices in a wide range of calories so they can choose the beverage that is right for them. **MAUREEN AT ABA**

Mississippi: Gay people are probably having more kids in Mississippi and Utah for the same reason that straight people are having more kids in Mississippi and Utah — California is an expensive place to live ["More Gays Are Raising Kids in Mississippi Than in California," Erin Sherbert, the Snitch, 5/23]. There's really nothing else to it.

Simple economics to why gay parents are in

Eminem needs to focus on his career, not suing Mark Zuckerberg: A person cannot copyright a progression, it's not a sample of the original beat, and the melody is different enough to be easily discernible ["Facebook vs. Eminem: Pissed-Off Rapper Says Mark Zuckerberg Ripped Off His Beats," Erin Sherbert, the Snitch, 5/21]. How about making a new album or touring instead of suing Zuckerburg on a weak case?

Letters Policy

We welcome letters to the editor via mail, e-mail, or fax. Letters may be edited for length and clarity, and must include your name, address, and daytime phone number (for confirmation only). We prefer letters intended for publication to be 250 to 350 words in length.

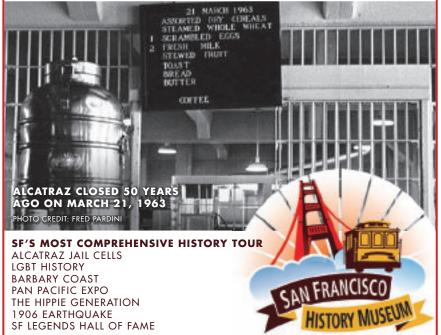
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FRENCH DISCONNECTION

Expats show San Franciscans how to not-vote.

BY JOE ESKENAZI

an Francisco is a city that is equal parts cosmopolitan and inefficient. So, on any given day, one can witness a diverse array of sophisticated people screwing something up.

On a recent Saturday at Oak and Franklin, a succession of thin men in stylish, tight-fitting suits sauntered into a school. It wasn't a casting call for a community theater production of Quadrophenia, however, but an exercise in democracy. San Franciscans vote on anything and everything several of you likely experienced a jolt at the revelation of an unknown election. But this was a French election (hence the snappy duds). So, don't worry about it.

The French didn't. While residents of La Republique are renowned for impressive voter turnout, Gallic locals registered a very San Franciscan 15.8 percent for this one. They can be forgiven, though. This wasn't just a misbegotten and bizarre election, but a bizarre substitute for one that was - bizarrely invalidated last year.

Americans citizens living abroad may still vote in federal elections (and some state ones). But that's representation in exchange for taxation; the United States is virtually unique in taxing its outbound citizens' "world

income." Like everyone else, French people earning a living in the U.S. only pay taxes here. Starting last year, however, 11 politicians specifically representing French people living abroad were voted into l'Assemblée Nationale.

It's odd to elect legislators who cannot legislate over the land you reside in. Their expenses - a cool \$29,100 a month - are picked up by actual French taxpayers, as is the projected \$12.8 million cost of holding 11 worldwide elections. Here in North America, however, things cost more - as the election was required to be held twice.

The creation of 11 new Assemblée members was, as you'd expect, largely a strategic maneuver by political leaders hoping to stock the body with allies. But this was better conceived as a political maneuver than a practical one. French campaign laws restrict candidates to a sole bank account. But virtually any European living abroad will, naturally, have bank accounts in both her adopted and home nations. But rules are rules: Last year, Corinne Narassiguin, the legislator elected to represent the U.S. and Canada, was expelled

> So that's why those men in mod suits were out on a sunny San Francisco Saturday, casting votes for candidates who may never have even resided on this

continent. But not many bothered to do so. Preliminary totals indicate only 132 San Franciscans cast ballots in person. Of them,

one particularly nihilistic Frenchman voted for no candidate at all.

A paltry showing in an offyear election is very San Francisco. But showing up in person — in nice clothing, no less - to register a vote for nobody? That's very French.



The Court of Appeals cements the governor's power over parole.

n 1987, Jeffrey Biggs was convicted of murder. A judge sentenced him to 25-years-to-life in prison, with the possibility of parole. In 1988, California passed Proposition 89, which gave the governor power to reverse parole-board decisions involving prisoners locked up for murder.

Those two events intersected in 2005 when the parole board deemed Biggs fit for release, but then-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger reversed that decision. Biggs challenged the legal grounds of the veto, claiming that it shouldn't be applicable to his case, which preceded the law, violating the expost facto clause of the Constitution.

Last week, though, the Ninth Circuit

Court of Appeals ruled against Biggs, affirming the decisions of the lower courts. Judge Jay S. Bybee, speaking for the three judges, wrote in the decision that ex post facto was not violated because the term of Biggs' sentence "was the same before and after the implementation of [the] review [law]," and "the factors to be considered in determining whether to grant parole were left unchanged."

The main issue was whether the change in the law produced "sufficient risk of increased punishment" for Biggs. Past court rulings, the Ninth Circuit noted, have not defined exactly what "sufficient risk" is.

So the basis for the Ninth Circuit's decision is that the passage of Proposition 89 did not meet that standard: Biggs was not necessarily facing a much greater likelihood of a longer prison stay when, a year into his sentence, the legislative policy shifted. That the new law would, in fact, lengthen his time behind bars was hypothetical and unpredictable at the time of its entry into the books.

The court's recent ruling sets a precedent, allowing the governor to reverse parole decisions for cases preceding the 1988 law.

Biggs's conviction stemmed from the murder of David Roberts in San Mateo County. Roberts had been set to testify in the trial of Biggs's boss, who was charged with grand theft for trafficking \$3 million in stolen computer parts. Biggs was present at the time of the murder and returned to the crime scene to help co-conspirators hide the body.

He kept a clean record while in prison, spending much of his 18 years there pursuing education. He earned a master's degree in business administration and Federal Aviation Administration certification.

While the denial of his petition holds some legal importance as it relates to future cases, it doesn't matter as much to Biggs as it used to. The parole board once again approved him for release in 2010, and this time Schwarzenegger did not review the case.

ALBERT SAMAHA

SEATS OF POWER

The strange and terrible saga of moving bronze art chairs across the street.

JOE ESKENAZI, YOUR HUMBLE NARRATOR

rimitivo Suarez-Wolfe is a talented artist. Maybe too talented: Anyone carelessly plopping down upon what appears to be a soft, inviting recliner on a sidewalk at Church and Duboce will receive an impromptu lesson on where his coccyx is.

The nine such bronze chairs sitting near the Muni stops since December compose Suarez-Wolfe's installation *Domestic Seating*. And while the plaque accompanying the public artwork describes it as being "inspired by the discarded furniture commonly seen on city sidewalks," this is selling the artist short. His several-hundred pound creations are, down to the unsightly indentations and overall Salvation Army décor, visually indistinguishable from the street furniture you may have put on skateboards and rolled to your college apartment.

There are two major distinctions, however: Derelict furniture is easily relocated and free, while *Domestic Seating* is bolted into the pavement and cost a great deal of city money. Suarez-Wolfe bristled at earlier media reports pegging the per-chair cost at a healthy \$9,100. He has reason to: This calculation neglects to factor in that the artist didn't touch his contingency fund, coming in nearly \$11,000 under budget. Once you do that math, the price tag shakes out to a svelter \$7,992 per seat.

Alas, that sum is about to grow. Come June 11, workers will yank two of the chairs out of the sidewalk and transport them several yards to the other side of the street — at a cost of an additional \$6,993 (which hikes the cost per chair to \$8,769).

When you think about it, the notion of responding to aggrieved public transit-users' desires for seating by commissioning a handful of costly works of art designed to replicate discarded, free furniture neatly captures the essence of this city. As does the ensuing Byzantine, seven-month, multiagency effort to uproot a pair of those chairs and deposit them a hop, skip, and a jump away.

"Why did the \$8,769 bronze chair cross the road?" isn't a joke. But it is a case study in San Francisco government.

peaking to the scads of city officials required to formulate and execute operations such as moving these chairs is a bit like perusing a wedding registry. Following the initial shock, it gradually seems perfectly logical that someone would require \$75 worth of hand towels. And, when myriad city employees outline the myriad steps required to do — and undo — anything here, geological amounts of time and astronomical sums of money begin to



The chairs, and their nemesis, Bob Planthold.

feel perfectly logical as well. Always the wonder is that things don't cost more and take longer.

It didn't take long, however, for a troubling complaint to be registered with the city regarding the chairs. Back in December, disability advocate Bob Planthold warned the Mayor's Office on Disability that the two seats on Church next to the Safeway crowded an already crammed Muni boarding zone and presented an obstacle for those with poor vision and no reason to anticipate 400 pounds worth of bronze faux derelict furniture between them and the 22-Fillmore or J-Church.

Planthold's lament was disseminated by the Mayor's Office on Disability — which did not have any input into the placing and design of these chairs. A platoon of officials from the Department of Public Works, Arts Commission, and Municipal Transportation Agency was, two weeks later, on site. And Kevin Jensen, Public Works' expert on Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, nearly ended up a bit shorter that day.

"The bus mirrors, as they pass by, come out awfully close to a tall pedestrian standing by the curb (one came real close to missing Kevin's head while we were standing onsite)," noted an e-mail from Nick Elsner, a senior plan-checker with Public Works. In his communique, Elsner claimed the chairs complied with both the ADA and the Better Streets Plan

— yet "we all agreed" that their current site, while meeting "minimal code compliance," was not satisfactory. (Your humble narrator asked Arts Commission spokeswoman Kate Patterson if the chairs were ADA compliant. She explained they were "not not ADA compliant" — which doesn't appear to not be the case.).

If pushing the chairs forward was an invitation to become a hood ornament, why not push them back along Safeway's wall? Well, that land is owned by Safeway. City officials' efforts to convince a private business to house large objects that were deemed possible lawsuit magnets went so well that Planthold was tapped to have a go at it. He did not fare better - the Safeway people apparently take the name of their store seriously. "Potential liability is one of the many reasons why I am not in support of having them move closer to our building," wrote Kimberley Beal, the grocery store's property manager. "Instead of moving the chairs closer to the

curb, it seems like the easiest solution would be to have the chairs removed."

That depends on your definition of the word "easy."

n June 13, Domestic Seating will be named to the Americans' for the Arts list of top 50 public installations in the country. Two days earlier, the offending chairs will be relocated. All it took was work by dozens of employees across at least four departments, permitting issues, and Chartermandated approval of resolutions generated by Arts Commission staff by both the Arts Commission and its Visual Arts Committee. Everyone involved in this process assures us that due diligence was undertaken and everything was done by the book. And here's the thing: That's undoubtedly true. This is how things are supposed to work.

Carla Johnson, the director of the Mayor's Office on Disability, tells us she looks forward to "talking more" — and earlier — with the Arts Commission, so future postfacto moves like this won't be necessary. Arts Commission officials, however, said that it's the DPW that oversees accessibility issues on Capital Improvement Projects — and that procedure won't change.

In other words, despite MOD's M.O., it's SOP on a CIP for DPW to OK ADA and BSP for AC — even after this SNAFU.

How exhausting. At least we all have a place to sit.

 $\underline{\text{E-mail Joe.} Eskenazi@SFWeekly.com}}$

erhaps social media — or rather, certain forms of social media — aren't overrun by crackpots and conspiracy theorists, after all. Or maybe they just reside in some far off hinterland of the Internet.

The point being, Twitter has become reliable for something.

The masses turn to social media for healthcare advice.

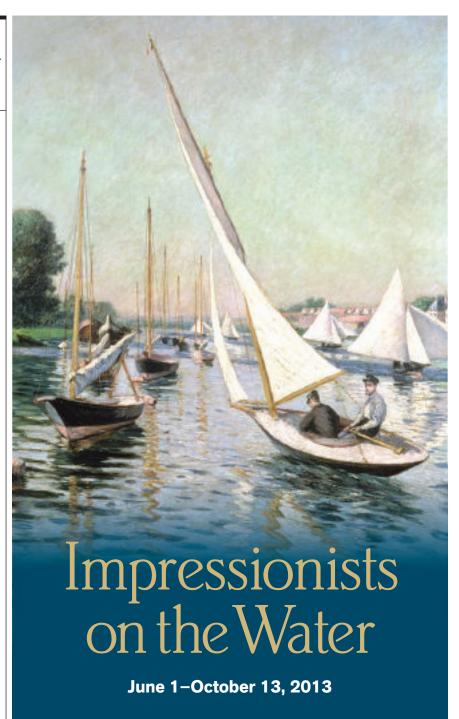
So says a new study by researchers at the University of Texas at Austin, who analyzed 9,510 tweets concerning one of the most contentious issues in modern medicine: vaccinations. Turns out, Twitter's channels reward people who back up their information from credible news outlets and health providers, so tweets that embrace status quo tend to have the most influence.

"Influence" in this case meant number of replies, favorites, or retweets. Of the 2,580 tweets that elicited a reaction, 33 percent viewed vaccines favorably, 54 percent were neutral, and 13 percent were negative. The vast majority discussed topics you might see in the health pages of The New York Times, such as efficacy of a herpes vaccine for women, development of the NeuVax E-74 vaccine for breast cancer, a blog that debunked vaccine-autism links, endorsement of the human papilloma virus vaccination for boys, and foreshadowing about a children's malaria vaccine and a potential vaccine to ward off lung cancer. Many tweets did, indeed, link to The New York Times or other reputable vessels.

University of Texas assistant professor Brad Love, who studies the persuasive power of mass media, says those findings surprised him.

"We live in an age of mass personal media where you can send a message out to one person and it might go to a thousand," he says. "It's a really mixed bag of return." He adds that people have a long history of crowd-sourcing their health care decisions, even before the term was invented. Our parents didn't use Twitter, but they watched *Dr. Phil.* Their friends might have relied on pop culture trends like fad diets or homeopathy.

Apparently there are enough quality-control mechanisms in Twitter to hold people accountable for what they say. Granted, the ratio of truth-to-fallacy might change once researchers broaden their scope beyond 140 characters. RACHEL SWAN



Embark on an artistic voyage during San Francisco's hosting of the America's Cup with *Impressionists on the Water*. Explore the significant role pleasure boating and competition played in the art and lives of the Impressionists and Post-Impressionists, including Monet, Pissarro, Renoir, and Signac.

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Gustave Caillebotte, *Regatta at Argenteuil* (detail), 1893. Oil on canvas. Private collection. Photograph © Comité Caillebotte, Paris



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n evil spirit was going to kill Susan Yuan's youngest son and only she could save him. She walked quickly, terrified by the revelation. This had all happened so fast.

Less than an hour ago, the 51-year-old's biggest concern on the afternoon of Nov. 10 was shopping for fruit. The market was bustling as Yuan browsed the aisles, passing tents selling strawberries, peaches, bean sprouts, eggplants, red peppers, and loaves of bread. She smelled roasted ducks hanging from hooks and flowers in plastic buckets. There were men unloading meat from the back of trucks and women packing bags of fresh fish and cabbage heads into metal carts.

So much to take in that Yuan barely noticed the woman in the gray knit hat.

"Excuse me," the woman said in Canton-

Yuan said that she did not know.

"Oh, I know Dr. Chan," came a voice behind Yuan. A woman with a bandage around her hand had apparently overheard the question. Bandaged Hand explained that he had healed her mother after a stroke three

The two women told Yuan that she should join them to meet the doctor. Yuan agreed. She felt a connection to them. They spoke her language. They were fellow immigrants from the Canton region of China. They were generous enough to introduce her to the great doctor. And this Dr. Chan sounded like a man worth meeting. So the trio made their way out of the market. As they walked, they talked about their families. Yuan's two new acquaintances asked

her all sorts of questions — how many children she had, where she lived, how long she had been in America. Soon, Bandaged Hand led them down a small residential side street, where they encountered a middleaged man on the sidewalk.

He introduced himself as Dr. Chan's grandson. The doctor, he said, was out of town. But the grandson had his own reputation. The women told Yuan that he had "Yin-Yang eyes," which gave him the ability to interact with the spiritual realm — the Chinese version of a shaman. He focused his attention on her. Yuan was impressed that he somehow knew how many children she had, and how many people lived in her home.

But then his face turned serious. He sensed that she had recently hit a stretch of bad luck. The cause, he explained, was an evil spirit that had been following her family. The spirit had attached itself to her youngest son and intended to bring him into the afterlife. Yuan's son, the doctor's grandson declared, would die in a car accident within three days.

Yuan's stomach twisted. In one sense, she felt lucky — only a person with Yin-Yang eyes could have made this discovery. But fate had also been harsh. Evil spirits don't need much of a reason to enter a life. The random ghosts are the most feared. They roam in the world of the living, picking their marks. They can possess anyone, at any time, for any reason. And only certain special rituals, conducted by a shaman, could exorcise the ghost.

The grandson tried to calm Yuan. Don't worry, he told her, there is a way to save your son.





Ghost Stories from p9

So, not an hour later, Yuan was rummaging through her home, seeking the ingredients for a purification ceremony. She grabbed a bag of rice. She gathered every bit of jewelry she could find. She snagged a bundle of cash. She wrapped the items separately in newspaper. All of it went into a small black bag.

She took a bus to her bank. She opened her safe deposit box, taking out \$10,000 in cash and some gold and jade jewelry pieces. She visited a second bank, where she took out another \$10,000 and more jewelry. She withdrew another \$3,000 from an ATM.

The doctor's grandson had told her that the purification ceremony's chances of success increased with every dollar. So Yuan was not leaving any bill unturned. As she hopped into a cab outside the bank, she carried her entire life savings — around \$47,000 — wrapped in newspaper in that black bag.

Yuan met the grandson in a vacant lot just east of the market. The two other women were also there. The grandson took the items from Yuan's bag and placed each one in a small black plastic bag. He then put those into a larger fabric bag. He handed this bag to Yuan and the ceremony began.

With his hands over the valuables, the man with the Yin-Yang eyes proclaimed in Cantonese, "Ghost will not follow your son. Your son will not die. Your son will not be involved in a car accident. Ghost will not harm your son." He repeated the words. And then he told Yuan to turn around and face the sun. He handed her a bottle of water to wash her face with, and she handed him the fabric bag, which he passed along to one of the other women watching from a few feet away. As Yuan washed her face, the man restated the invocation. Everything will be peaceful, he told Yuan, all will be safe. The ceremony was over. The man returned the fabric bag to Yuan.

But things were not all clear yet, he said. She had to follow certain directions to ensure the process worked: She must tell no one about this ceremony; she must not look back at him when she walked away; and she must not open the bag until she got home. Fail



to complete any of these steps, the doctor's grandson said, and your son will die.

The man traced some shape on Yuan's back. This is for protection, he said. And then they parted ways.

Yuan was still holding back tears as she got on the bus to begin the trek from the Alemany Farmers' Market to her Sunset District home. Would it work? Was it enough?

She did not yet know that there was a tragedy in her future, that a transformation had occurred. She did not yet know that the bag she held contained only apples and water bottles.

And then a policeman walked up and told her to get off the bus.

eginning in March 2012, a peculiar type of fraud struck San Francisco's Chinese community. Dubbed "ghost scams" or "blessing scams," the crimes captured headlines for both their strangeness and heartlessness: Con artists targeted elderly Cantonese women, exploiting their cultural beliefs and duty to protect their children.

In the year since, more reports have popped up all over the globe: Boston,

New York City, Vancouver, Hong Kong, Los Angeles, Seattle, Las Vegas, and Mel-

bourne, among others.
But San Francisco
has been hit the
hardest. More than
50 victims have
filed reports. The
District Attorney's of-

The city's public awareness campaign, spearheaded by District Attorney George Gascón (top) and Sup. David Chiu, has included community meetings, press conferences, video reenactments, bus ads, and tote bags.

fice calculates that around \$1.5 million in money and property has been stolen. Three suspects were arrested in May 2012, but the thefts continued. Four more were arrested in November. Another in January. And by spring 2013, the District Attorney's office was prosecuting three ghost scam cases against a total of eight defendants. San Francisco Police Chief Greg Suhr said that he believed a crime ring was responsible.

The scams worked because they zeroed in on belief. Warding off evil spirits is a major component of popular Chinese religion, a modern composite of Confusionism, Daoism, Buddhism, and various indigenous beliefs. Statues and pictures of gods stand on altars in homes. Families rearrange furniture to ensure Feng Shui's optimal flow of energy. Families visit fortune-tellers seeking explanations for unfortunate events. And parents feel an obligation to protect their children from evil spirits, a mindset academics call "filiopathy."

"It's not surprising that an older Chinese woman would fall victim to this scam because of her cultural system," says Jonathan H.X. Lee, a religious studies professor at San Francisco State University. "They're not doing it because they're stupid. They're doing it because of this very deep sense of

filiopathy, of their duty as a parent."

Assembling valuables for a blessing did not raise red flags for the women because currency plays an important role in their beliefs. On Chinese New Year, people exchange red envelopes filled with money, craft fans out of dollar bills, and construct money trees with leaves of cash. During the annual Hungry Ghost Festival, when the gates of the spiritual realm are said to open, people leave offerings of gold inside their homes for their ancestors and silver outside for evil spirits. At funerals, loved ones burn fake money as offerings to the deceased, to ensure their protection from the beyond.

"The surviving family would purchase paper money, paper clothes, cars, and other material goods to assist the newly dead transition to 'life' in the other realm," says Lee. "This is why the family will need to make regular offerings to their ancestors, in order to help them live in the other realm. If not, they become hungry, and poor, and can potentially turn on their living family."

Currency, then, is required for a transaction with the spirits. And, naturally, the greater the offering, the better the chances of winning the spirits' favors. So in the Chinese culture, money's value extends beyond this mortal coil.

Around the world, the practice of maintaining ties to the spiritual realm has generated an industry. Walk down Chinatown and you'll see dozens of storefronts offering fortune-telling or selling the tools required for traditional rituals. There are opportunities for profit in the big business of religious worship. And the ghost scammers knew it.

But while the particulars of the con might appear foreign and bizarre to Westerners, its basic elements are familiar: preying on belief and desperation. Like the woman from the online dating site who asks her virtual beau to send \$500 to help cover the costs of her sick mother's hospital bills, or the Craigslist landlord who just needs a security deposit wired over before he can show the apartment, the scammer gains the mark's trust with a story the mark wants to accept, then pitches a transaction the mark cannot bear to reject.

or the marks, the signs of the scam become painfully obvious in hindsight. After Tru Tran, 63, was fleeced in March 2012, she was so ashamed that she waited a day before breaking the news to her family. All the jewelry in the house was gone, many of which were family heirlooms, passed down at least four generations. Cash was gone too: \$1,000 of Tran's money, plus \$19,000 that her 32-year-old son Brandon To was saving for his October wedding.

To was frustrated and confused. He'd worked hard for that money, fixing refrigerators for restaurants and working at a milk plant in Petaluma. More than anything though, he worried for his mother. Over the next few weeks, he noticed that she lost her appetite. He heard her pacing up and down the hallway in the middle of the night because she was unable to sleep for more than 30 minutes at a time.

To knew that his mother was no fool. Over two decades, she'd built herself and her family a comfortable life in San Francisco. To's grandparents had fled >> p12



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Ghost Stories from p10

China during the Japanese invasion of the 1930s. They started a life in Vietnam, where Tran was raised and To was born. When To was eight, his mother and father immigrated to America. They brought their culture with them, finding a community full of others who shared their beliefs.

"It's probably hard for a lot of people to understand how someone could fall for something like this," To says. "I know I couldn't believe it at first. It was just so strange."



And because it was so strange, To and his five brothers figured that there was no use going to police. "We thought they wouldn't believe us," he says. A month after the crime, though, the San Francisco Police Department announced that it had become aware of the scam spree. To and his family heard the news on TV and, soon after, Tran went to the station to file a report.

As the list of victims grew longer, the city launched a public awareness campaign to educate people about the scam. The police department hosted community meetings, filmed public service announcements, and reached out to local Chinese news media. The District Attorney's office posted bus ads and held press conferences telling people to be wary of anybody asking them to put money in a bag in exchange for a blessing. More than 400 people showed up to a recent awareness event in Chinatown's Portsmouth Square, where representatives from the city and the DA's office, accompanied by interpreters, detailed the crime. They passed out tote bags reading "Beware of Blessing Scams." Attendees were so eager to spread the word that they all but mobbed Assistant District Attorney Alex Bastian, the brave soul with the stack of bags in his arms. "Calm down! Be cool!" one of the event's security guards shouted, as patrons grabbed the free merchandise, sometimes from each other.

The public, it seemed, had been effectively informed.

im Yin Wong, 60, saw one of those public service announcements. And, on the morning of Nov. 10, while she was hustling home from the Alemany Farmers' Mar-

ket to gather money and jewelry for a purification ceremony, she remembered the details of the scam. So she went instead to the Ingleside Police Station. (At about that same time, a woman in a gray knit hat was approaching Susan Yuan as she shopped for fruit in the market.)

SFPD officers decided that an eightman surveillance team would watch Wong return to the market and meet with the suspects.

So, an hour after Wong met with police, a police officer sat in his undercover car, parked in the lot east of the market. He saw



a strange scene unfold. A few feet from his car, a man stood behind a woman, rubbing her back with his hands. He then waved his hand over her. She walked away, toward the bus stop, without looking back. That was Susan Yuan. A few seconds later, the man turned and walked toward the center of the market. After a few paces, he broke into a sprint.

The officer followed the man from the lot. The man raced toward a cab, to which three women were also running. One of them carried a black fabric bag. They'd barely slammed the doors when the officer pulled up behind the car, siren blaring. Several other officers arrived. They pulled the four suspects out of the taxi and detained them. In the car's backseat, the officer found the fabric bag. Inside was \$47,000 cash and a pile of jewelry.

At that moment, another officer was on the bus, telling Yuan that that there were no valuables in the bag she held, but that they had stopped the thieves. This was a lot to absorb for Yuan, still rattled from the thought of her son dying. But when the officer took her to the suspects, she positively identified them. The foursome was booked and charged with grand theft and extortion.

Six months later, the foursome became the first ghost scam suspects in the country to stand trial. Assistant District Attorney Michael Sullivan laid out a straightforward narrative for the jury: The defendants were professional scam artists who had been committing the con all around the world. He noted that police officers founds dozens of unused black plastic bags in their Whitcomb Hotel room, the same sort of bags that contained Yuan's valuables in the cab. Police

also found thousands of dollars in cash in their luggage.

Sullivan pointed out the stamps in the defendants' passports. In the five years before they were arrested in San Francisco, the four suspects - Yachang Lei, Yannu Tan, Mudi Wu, and Yonghua Zeng - traveled extensively throughout Southeast Asia, to Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Brunei, and Cambodia. Lei made 16 total trips, Wu made 17, Tan made five, and Zeng made nine. Some of those trips overlapped. The nationhopping, Sullivan argued, was for neither business nor pleasure, but for crime.



Yannu Tan (left), Mudi Wu (center), Yonghua Zeng (right), and Yachang Lei claimed that they were human trafficking victims coerced into committing the thefts by a criminal organization that threatened to kill their loved ones.

The case seemed open and shut, particularly because the defendants did not deny their participation in the farmers' market theft. But they had a story that explained everything.

An organized crime ring in China was the true culprit, the defense team argued, and, in fact, the defendants themselves were victims - victims of human trafficking, coerced into committing the theft by crime bosses who threatened to kill their families. Their attorneys made the case that the defendants should be acquitted because they had no legal alternatives to prevent the murder of a child, that they committed their crimes out of legal necessity. As defense attorney Samuel Lasser explained in court: "You can do this scam or you can collect your son's corpse in China."

The accused claimed that, like the scam victims, they were tricked into foolish actions by the desperation to protect their loved ones.

hina's Guangdong Province sits at the southeastern tip of the mainland. Because of its access to the ocean and its proximity to Hong Kong's affluence, the region has become a base of operations for Triads - Chinese mafia groups.

In 1999, the government executed eight Triad members from the region, in an effort to send a message. Yet eight years later, a government court investigation reported that organized crime groups in Guangdong were growing bigger and more sophisticated. One Guangdong Triad faction reportedly won over the services of a local Communist Party chief with bribes totaling more than 12 million Hong Kong dollars. In addition to selling drugs, counterfeiting money, and extorting businesses, the Triads have their hands deep in the lending industry. In the absence of a strong private banking system in China, the Triads have stepped in as go-to sources for loans — for investors, entrepreneurs, and gamblers alike. Their business model rests on ruthlessness charging high interest rates and doling out harsh penalties for those who could not repay their debts — but also convenience.

Which is how the four defendants say they got caught up in the scam operation. At the April trial, they each took the stand, placed their hands on the Bible, and told their stories.

They said they grew up in poor, rural farming villages in Guangdong and quit school as children in order to work the fields. By early adulthood, though, each had found a semblance of financial stability, some working steady jobs, some opening up small businesses with their spouses.

But then husbands gambled away savings. Businesses failed. Investments tanked. Soon the Triad loan sharks came to collect money that the defendants could not pay. There were threats, and beatings, and kidnappings.

The defendants alleged that Triad enforcers threatened to kill their children if they did not pay back the loans by working for the organization in America. So, in November, after brief stays in Los Angeles and Las Vegas, the four defendants arrived in San Francisco.

Their chaperone for the trip was a woman named Chi Mei Ng. And, on Nov. 8, in a room at the Whitcomb Hotel on Market Street, they said that Ng introduced them to their new jobs. She explained that they would tell "ghost stories." They spent the next day rehearsing.

On the morning of the 10th, a taxi driver working for Ng picked up the five of them from the hotel. After dropping off the scammers at the Alemany Farmers' Market, the cabbie drove Ng to a travel agency in China-



MUSIC



town. The cab's security camera recorded their conversation. Ng explained that she was changing her return flight to L.A., from Dec. 12 to Nov. 11, and that she didn't want her four friends to know she was leaving earlier than planned. "I want you to help me lie a little bit," she told the cabbie in Cantonese. The cabbie brought Ng back to the Whitcomb, before heading back to the market that afternoon. Ng would be long gone by the time SFPD obtained a warrant to search the defendants' room the following day. (She has not been caught.)

But in the meantime, the defendants were running the scam at the farmers' market. They said in court that, petrified by the Triad threats, they had no choice. Saving their children took precedence over the sin of theft. They couldn't go to the police; how, after all, could SFPD protect their family when the Triads hunted them down across the Pacific Ocean? So they went over the script in their minds and honed in on their targets...

That, at least, is the story they wanted the 12 jurors to believe.

Sullivan, the prosecutor, recognized that the result of this case hinged on belief. Nearly all the relevant details supporting the defense team's legal necessity claim

The scammers targeted elderly Cantonese women, exploiting their cultural beliefs and duty to protect their children in order to rob them.



At a recent awareness event, DA George Gascón (left) and Sup. David Chiu saw more than 400 people pack into Chinatown's Portsmouth Square.

stemmed from defendants' testimonies stories from thousands of miles away that could be neither confirmed nor refuted.

In his closing argument, Sullivan chipped away at any belief the jurors may have had in those stories. He reminded them that the defendants were here in the first place because they got somebody to believe in a story.

"The defendants," he said, "are these same people that lied to the people in this case, the same people that committed this scam. And they are lying now."

His point was simple: Don't let them fool you the way they fooled the victims.

"They made up a story," Sullivan said, "a story based on lies."

The jury believed Sullivan. After two weeks of deliberation, the jurors found Zeng guilty of grand theft, Wu guilty of attempted grand theft, and Tan and Lei guilty on both counts (they hung on the extortion charges). Judge Brendan Conroy would sentence Tan and Lei to two years and four months in jail, Zeng to two years, and Wu to one year.

As the jurors exited the courtroom following the May 9 verdict, they encountered reporters and lawyers curious about how they reached their conclusion. Jurors noted how the travel histories were suspicious, how the defendants didn't seem nervous in the footage of their cab ride to the market, how they gambled in Las Vegas and visited Universal Studios in Los Angeles. They noted the cash in the suitcases and the presence of the unused plastic bags. One juror summed it all up concisely: "We didn't believe them."

■ hile the jury in the farmers' market case deliberated, another ghost scam case was reaching its conclusion. Another trio of defendants - who were arrested at San Francisco International Airport in May 2012, shortly before their scheduled flight to Hong Kong - were convicted of grand theft in a bench trial, in which a judge decides the verdict. In addition to those two successful prosecutions, the DA's office



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Ghost Stories from p13

currently has another ghost scam case in its pre-trial stages.

In the 15 months since the scam wave hit the city, San Francisco authorities have successfully suppressed the con. Reports of the crime eased to a trickle, then eventually stopped altogether. While San Francisco was the first jurisdiction in America to prosecute the ghost scammers, other cities are following suit. Two of the defendants from the airport arrests will face charges in New York City upon their release. Two defendants from the Alemany Farmers' Market thefts are also set to be extradited after completing their jail terms: New York City issued arrest warrants for Yannu Tan, in connection with a scam there in July, and for Mudi Wu, in connection with an August scam; Wu is wanted in Los Angeles as well, for a scam in October.

A curious side effect of the ghost scams is the ways in which they have illuminated the customs of an insular community. As the scams are detailed in transcripts and news reports, they have brought San Francisco's Cantonese population into strange contact with the rest of the city.

At the recent sentencing hearing for the defendants in the airport case, more than two dozen spectators packed the courtroom. Most were elderly women, and nearly all were Chinese. The spectators chatted, oblivious to the bailiff asking the room for quiet. A Cantonese court interpreter rose from his seat behind the prosecution's table to convey the message. The crowd hushed. But when the interpreter told them to silence their cell phones, a few looked around with puzzled expressions. One woman called over the interpreter and handed him her phone. He pressed the power button to shut it down. Another woman did the same, and then another, and soon the interpreter was shuffling down the row, switching off the devices.

Brandon To and his mother, Tru Tran, were there, sitting in the front row. To's mother could not identify any of the suspects in a photo lineup. Perhaps her memory was clouded, or perhaps she was scammed by a different set of criminals altogether. Either

San Francisco was the first jurisdiction in America to prosecute the ghost scammers. Gascón's office has convicted seven defendants so far, with another case pending.

way, because she was not an official victim in this case, she wouldn't touch any of the \$17,000 in cash seized during the airport arrest. While more than 50 victims have filed reports, less than a dozen are eligible for compensation in any of the three cases.

Instead, Tran sat as a spectator as Judge Angela Bradstreet sentenced the defendants to two-plus years in jail.

The punishments did little to lift To's spirits. As he filed out of the courtroom with his mother, he thought about how he should have raised his hand and tried to speak up at the hearing, to make sure the defendants knew they had stolen more than money. They had stolen a generation's trust. A generation that congregated together in a foreign land, developing a community that took care of its own and keeping alive the customs of the ancestors.

"My mom was just doing what she

thought was right at the time,"

To says. "It would have been different if somebody was home to talk to her."

The ghost scam was tailored to bewitch an older generation; it's safe to assume that when that generation passes, the

ghost scam dies with it. Like the children of most first generation immigrants, To was always a step detached from that old world, growing up with one foot in a room filled with lunar calendars and the other foot in a room filled with Golden State Warriors memorabilia.

But then the ghost scammers erased that distance. And the traditions of his past shattered the modern life he had established.

The police have told To that they are still searching for more scammers, particularly any of the crime bosses higher up the food chain. But he is wary of false hope. The family heirlooms he had planned to give his fiancee are gone. So is the down payment for the wedding. The couple has postponed their marriage ceremony indefinitely.

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SATURDAY

PAGE 21

Pick, grin, repeat at this week's free-est folk fest.



SUNDAY

PAGE16

Jazz and poetry: Snap your fingers to the nubs.



WEDNESDAY

PAGE 22

Three paths diverged in a bar, and I chose "rock."



NIGHTDAY

WEEK OF JUNE 6-JUNE 12, 2013

W W W . S F W E E K L Y . C O M / C A L E N D A R

THU 6/6

▼ EXPLORATORIUM

NIGHT IN THE MUSEUM

Zoë Keating is unbelievable. She encapsulates everything that San Francisco aspires to be without even breaking a sweat. Keating is an artist with a background in technology, a DIY entrepreneur who once played in the city's underground warehouse scene, and a woman who quit her job to pursue her passion and got away with it. Her unique approach to the cello, where she layers the sound through a laptop controlled by her feet, has landed her as a musical guest on ABC Radio National, So You Think You Can Dance? and NPR's All Things Considered. Keating will play tonight as part of the After Dark series at the new Exploratorium, which every paper printed in the city has raved about. The museum's many exhibits will be open for exploration, and since this is a night for grown folks, so will the bar.

After Dark starts at 6 p.m. at the Exploratorium, Pier 15, S.F. Admission is \$10-\$15; call 528-4444 or visit exploratorium.edu. DEVIN HOLT

SUN 6/9

▼ STREET FAIR

RELIVE THE SUMMER OF LOVE

Few neighborhoods in San Francisco have as much living history as the Haight. Hippies still trundle into town with their backpacks and dogs in tow to pay homage to the Grateful Dead's old house at 710 Ashbury St. Diamond Dave — who was part of the '60s free food movement the Diggers — is sometimes called "the Mayor of Haight Street," and the infamous Grateful Dead parking lot hustler "Fast Eddie" can occasionally be seen stumbling into or out of Golden Gate Park. The Haight-Ashbury Street Fair manages to pay tribute to this history and throw a pretty good party at the same time. Originally started in 1978 with the help of civil rights icon Harvey Milk, the Haight-Ashbury Street Fair has grown from a celebration of all things Haight Street into one of San Francisco's favorite festivals. Expect tie-dye vendors, "special" brownies and live jam-band rock, in addition to more typical street fair foods like hot dogs and kettle corn.

The Haight-Ashbury Street Fair starts at 11 a.m. on Haight Street between Stanyan and



Masonic, S.F. Admission is free; visit haightashburystreetfair.org. **DEVIN HOLT**

▼ LIT

POEMS FOR JAZZBOS

The new SFJAZZ Center, which opened in January, is putting on its first annual Poetry Festival, curated by SFJAZZ Poet Laureate Ishmael Reed. Spanning four days, the festival includes performances by premier Bay Area poets, many of whom will be riffing with improv musicians. Each evening will also conclude with an open mic session. Thursday features S.F. Poet Laureate Alejandro Murguia and California Poet Laureate Juan Felipe Herrera. On Friday, Genny Lim performs with woodwind maestro Melecio Magdaluyo, with the two joined by Lorna Dee Cervantes, Boadiba, and Neli Moody. On Saturday, Reed performs with pianist Mary Watkins, and will be joined by Michael Mc-Clure and Al Young accompanied by bassist Dan Robbins. Sunday's lineup includes Lucha Corpi, Floyd Salas, Jack and Adelle Foley, and Claire Ortada. If you're looking for dynamic performance in a lush setting, then any one of these nights is a sure bet.

SFJAZZ Poetry Festival begins at 7:30 p.m. and runs June 6-9 at the SFJAZZ Center,

201 Franklin St., S.F. Tickets are \$15; call 398-5655 or visit sfjazz.org. EVAN KARP

MON 6/10

▼ A KIND OF MUSIC

BIGGER THAN 8-BITS

Daaa, da-da-da-da-da. Sound familiar? That's the sound of video-game music sophisticated enough for the symphony. If you've ever been a Legend of Zelda fan, you remember the grandeur of its 8-bit soundtrack, which is finally getting the nightlong celebration so many feel it deserves. The Legend of Zelda: Symphony of the Goddesses will play all-new arrangements of various musical pieces from the long-running Nintendo franchise. The Symphony includes music from games including Ocarina of Time, The Wind Waker, Twilight Princess, and A Link to the Past. The music will be accompanied by a large-scale video projection of the game's most memorable scenes and characters. You can probably do cosplay at this event (seems about right. although it's not specified) but we'll leave that up to your judgment.

The Legend of Zelda: Symphony of the Goddesses takes place 8 p.m. Monday at

Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness Ave., S.F. \$45-\$125; call 864-6000 or visit zelda-symphony.com. EMILIE MUTERT

TUE 6/11

▼ SEX AND BOOKS

NAUGHTY TALK

Dan Savage, most famous for his syndicated Savage Love advice column (which runs in the sexy section at the back of this newspaper every week), will be appearing at the Castro Theatre with writer Daniel Handler (aka children's book author Lemony Snicket). In the wake of his award-winning "It Gets Better" Project, Savage is promoting a new book, American Savage, and he and host Handler will spend the evening talking sex, politics, and whatever else comes up. Undoubtedly some scandalous stories and subjects will be broached, jokes will be made, boundaries may be broken, and lines will certainly be walked. This is the first of a series of Commonwealth Club events to be hosted by Handler.

Inforum presents Dan Savage with Daniel Handler, 7 p.m. at the Castro Theatre, 429 Castro St., S.F. \$15-\$80; visit castrotheatre.com. EMILIE MUTERT

Calendar listings are offered as a free service to SF Weekly readers and are subject to space restrictions. To have a listing added, contact Clubs and Calendar Editor John Graham by e-mail (Calendar@sfweekly.com), fax (777-1839), or mail (225 Bush St. 17th, Floor, San Francisco, CA 94104). To change an existing listing, call 536-8147. Deadline is noon Tuesday for the following week's issue. Except as noted, all phone numbers are in the 415 area code. Listings rotate regularly, as space allows. Our complete listings of local events — searchable by keyword, date, and genre — are available online.

ART-GALLERIES

1AM Gallery. Vogue TDK: How We Do: Solo show of spray-painted canvasses depicting iconic images of urban street life. Tuesdays-Saturdays. Continues through June 29. 1000 Howard St., S.F., 861-5089, www.lamsf.com.

THU 6/6

▼ LIT

LOCAL ELECTRICS

It's been only three years since the first of the monthly submission-based reading series Quiet Lightning, but it has since become a kind of town hall of the Bay Area literary scene, where both established names and emerging writers come together for a consistently evolving, experimental show. To honor the familiar faces who help build and sustain the community, Quiet Lightning holds a special Neighborhood Heroes edition of its show once a year. Anyone can nominate Bay Area writers who have produced superior literature or contributed to the community in a significant way, as well as nominate those who have read in the show before and deserve a second run. The series has been held in nightclubs, galleries, and our personal favorite - the Conservatory of Flowers, but this will be the first time it enters a museum space at the Contemporary Jewish Museum. In the spirit of honoring prominent members of the local literary scene, the show will run alongside the exhibit Beat Memories: The Photographs of Allen Ginsberg. This particular reading puts Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Jane Smiley (A Thousand Acres won in 1992) in the same room as S.F. Guerilla Opera founder Tom Comitta, along with the eccentric vocal instrumentation and poetry of Chris Peck, the self-proclaimed (and community-approved) Town Crier. Enjoy a beer, readings, and QL's zine sPARKLE + bLINK while you take in the burgeoning scene and - hopefully - consider submitting to the next reading.

Quiet Lightning's Neighborhood Heroes Show begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Contemporary Jewish Museum, 736 Mission St., S.F. Admission is \$5; visit quietlightning.org for more info. NEHA TALREJA 472 Gallery. #BWSANFRANCISCO: Group show of local Instamatic pix. Mondays-Fridays, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Continues through July 4. 472 Jackson St., S.F., 322-0445, www.472gallery.com.

Bayview/Anna E. Walden Branch Library. Bayview's Historical Footprints: Redux!: Historical photography exhibit and stories by Bayview/ Hunters Point elders. Daily. 5075 Third St., S.F., 355-5757, www.sfpl.org.

Center for Sex & Culture. The Fairoaks Project: Photographs by Frank Melleno: Gary Freeman curates this collection of enlarged Polaroids portraying daily life at the Fairoaks Hotel, a gay bathhouse operating in San Francisco from 1977-'79. June 7-30. 1349 Mission, S.F., 902-2071. www.sexandculture.org.

Crown Point Press. Summer Choices: A Group Exhibition: Mondays-Saturdays. Continues through Aug. 31. Robert Bechtle: New Monotypes: Mondays-Saturdays. Continues through Aug. 31. 20 Hawthorne, S.F., 974-6273, www.crownpoint.com.

Electric Works. Robert Minervini: After Glow – As the Wick Burns: Traditional floral still lifes collide with modern society in this series of ecologically inspired paintings. Tuesdays-Saturdays. Continues through June 29.1360 Mission St., S.F., 626-5496, www.sfelectricworks.com.

Fecal Face Dot Gallery. Skull & Sword: Group show featuring Grime, Henry Lewis, Yutaro, and Lango, all of whom are artists at Mission tattoo shop Skull & Sword. Wednesdays-Saturdays, 1-6 p.m. Continues through June 8. 2277 Mission St., S.F., 500-2166, www.ffdg.net. **Gallery 16.** Jock McDonald: Havana – The Longview: A body of photographic work documenting the entire length of El Malecon, the famous breakwater/boulevard along the urban coastline of Havana, Cuba. Mondays-Saturdays. Continues through June 15. 501 Third St., S.F., 626-7495, www.gallery16.com.

George Krevsky Fine Art. Lawrence Ferlinghetti: Future Woman: Solo show of paintings by the legendary poet and City Lights Books owner. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Continues through June 29.77 Geary, S.F., 397-9748, www.georgekrevskygallery.com.

Hosfelt Gallery. Rina Banerjee: Tender Mahal – Lifted: The centerpiece of this India-born artist's show is a giant recreation of the Taj Mahal rendered in pink plastic. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m. -6 p.m. Continues through July 13. Lordy Rodriguez: Code Switch: New works on paper. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m. -6 p.m. Continues through July 13. 260 Utah St., S.F., 495-5454, www.hosfeltgallery.com.

John Pence Gallery. Dean Larson: Recent oil paintings of landscapes and urban scenes including San Francisco, Yosemite, Italy, and other locations. Mondays-Saturdays. Continues through June 8. 750 Post, S.F., 441-1138, www.johnpence.com.

Market Street Gallery. Skip Cullen: humility: Humble wood palettes painted-and-repurposed to become something new. TuesdaysSaturdays. Continues through June 28. 1554 Market, S.F., 290-1441, www.marketstreetgallery.com.

Modern Eden. The Language of Flowers: Group show giving a modern Pop Surrealism spin to old Victorian floriography. Tuesdays-Saturdays. Continues through June 15. Helice Wen: Between Lost & Found: A collection of delicately rendered sketches and paintings featuring young girls in varying states of emotional vulnerability. Tuesdays-Saturdays. Continues through June 15. 403 Francisco St., S.F., 420-2898. www.moderneden.com.

Paul Mahder Gallery. Patrick Graham: Solo exhibition by the influential Irish painter. Through July 7. 3378 Sacramento, S.F., 474-7707, www.paulmahdergallery.com.

RayKo Photo Center. Henry Horenstein: Honky Tonk – Portraits of Country Music: B&W documentary photography series chronicling the American traditional country music scene from the 1970s to today. Tuesdays-Sundays. Continues through July 5. Dimensions: Group show featuring work by the City College of San Francisco's Photo 130 class. Tuesdays-Sundays. Continues through July 5. 428 Third St., S.F., 495-3773, www.raykophoto.com.

Robert Koch Gallery. Shai Kremer: Concrete Abstract & Notes from the Edges: Photo show including abstract multi-layered photographs of the World Trade Center construction site as well as evocative >>

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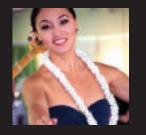


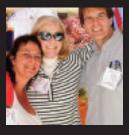


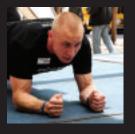




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snapshots taken on the fringes of NYC. Tuesdays-Saturdays. Continues through June 15. 49 Geary, S.F., 421-0122, www.kochgallery.com.

- San Francisco Art Institute, iOve. Miral: Reflective Approaches in Contemporary Latin American Video Art: Group show featuring modern video art from Cuba, Mexico, Argentina, Peru, and Bolivia. Tuesdays-Saturdays. Continues through June 8. 800 Chestnut, S.F., 771-7020. www.sfai.edu.
- SF Camerawork. Jem Cohen: Museum Pictures: Photographs taken by the indie filmmaker in Vienna's Kunsthistorisches Art Museum while making his latest movie, Museum Hours, Wednesdays-Saturdays, 12-5 p.m. Continues through June 22, 657 Mission, S.F., 512-2020. www.sfcamerawork.org.
- SOMArts Cultural Center. Zeitgeist: The Queer Cultural Center's annual group exhibition exploring contemporary trends in LGBT culture. Part of the National Queer Arts Festival. Tuesdays-Saturdays. Continues through June 30. 934 Brannan, S.F., 863-1414, www.somarts.org.
- Spare Change Artist Space. Brooke Westfall: Revised Inheritance: A series of mixed media works that recreate emotionally resonant family documents and other paper artifacts. Mondays, Fridays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Continues through June 28. 465 California St., S.F.
- White Walls Gallery. C3: Before the Sun Dies, Part II Kingdom of Night: Graphite illustrations imply creepy, mysterious narratives in otherworldly 19th century settings. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 12-7 p.m. 886 Geary St., S.F., 931-1500, www.whitewallssf.com.

BURLESQUE

Blue Bone Express & Hot Pink Feathers: Brassy jazz & burlesque dames. Second Saturday of every month, 9 p.m., \$10, blueboneexpress.com. Cafe Van Kleef, 1621 Telegraph, Oakland, 510-763-7711, www.cafevankleef.com.

Bombshell Betty & Her Burlesqueteers: Get bawdy at this monthly burlesque performance with music provided by Fromagique. Second Tuesday of every month, 9 p.m., \$10, bombshellbetty. net. Elbo Room, 647 Valencia, S.F., 552-7788, www.elbo.com.

Bubbles on Fire Burlesque: '80s with Hades: Ten dance performances-one for each year of the 1980s-with musical selectionsincluding synthpop, classic rock, hip-hop, and hair metal. Fri., June 7, 9:30 p.m., \$10, bubblesonfire.com. Hemlock Tavern, 1131 Polk, S.F., 923-0923, www.hemlocktavern.com.

Diva Darlings: Thursdays, 10:30 p.m. Divas, 1081 Post, S.F., 474-3482,

Donkey Punch Comedy & Burlesque Show: With performances by Moore Devine, Eloisa Bravo, Griffin Daley, Kittie Von Tittie, and Ferosha Titties, Sun., June 9, 8 p.m., \$10, facebook.com/ HellaGavComedyShow, 1772 Market Street, 1772 Market St., S.F., 371-9705, facebook.com/1760MarketStreet.

First Friday Follies: With Belles du Jour & burlesque quests. First Friday of every month, 9 p.m., free, facebook.com/ groups/97138677663, Stork Club, 2330 Telegraph, Oakland, 510-444-6174, www.storkcluboakland.com.

Red Hots Burlesque: Dottie Lux has led these weekly shimmy showcases since 2008. Wednesdays, 7 p.m.; Fridays, 7:30 p.m., \$5-\$10, redhotsburlesque.com, El Rio, 3158 Mission, S.F., 282-3325, www.elriosf.com,

Séduction Féroce: Monthly burlesque cabaret. Second Tuesday of every month, 9 p.m., \$7, facebook.com/pages/Séduction-Féroce/161960230511520. The New Parish, 579 18th St., Oakland, 510-444-7474, www.thenewparish.com.

Uptown Hubba Hubba: Weekly burlesques & lascivious laffs from the Hubba Hubba Revue crew. Mondays, 9 p.m., \$5, hubbahubbarevue. com. Uptown Nightclub, 1928 Telegraph, Oakland, 510-451-8100, www.uptownniahtclub.com.

CABARET AND DRAG

The 2013 S.F. Queen of Queens Pageant: Drag competition hosted by Ana Mae Coxxx and Ginger Snap, plus previous winners Savannah

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SAN FRANVAMPIRES

The literary journal that focuses solely on San Francisco-related work is back with Issue 8: The Genre Issue. As the name suggests, *Instant City* is emblematic of our ever-changing municipality and its many subcultures, so it's not hard to imagine how comically outrageous it might be to see S.F. via cowboys and vampires. Especially from the likes of Sean Taylor, Alvin Orloff, Alia Volz, and Trent Tano, all of whom will be performing. The evening will be held

Summers and Ruby Holiday. Sun., June 9, 8:30 p.m., \$5. The Stud,

Bollywood Divas: Queering Desi Cinema: Desi cinema goes drag in two films — Anui Vaidva's Rad Girl with a Heart of Gold and Kareem

Khubchandani's Lessons in Drag — presented by 3rd i. Sat., June 8.

7 p.m., \$10-\$12, thirdi.org, Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia.

Cocktailgate: Hosted by Suppositori Spelling. Sundays, 9 p.m. Truck,

Christy Cruse: Sundays, 9 p.m., free. Aunt Charlie's Lounge, 133 Turk,

Diva Darlings: Thursdays, 10:30 p.m. Divas, 1081 Post, S.F., 474-3482,

Donkey Punch Comedy & Burlesque Show: With performances

by Moore Devine, Eloisa Bravo, Griffin Daley, Kittie Von Tittie, and

Ferosha Titties. Sun., June 9, 8 p.m., \$10, facebook.com/HellaGay-

ComedyShow. 1772 Market Street, 1772 Market St., S.F., 371-9705,

Meow Mix: A weekly cabaret show hosted by Ferosha Titties, with

The Monster Show: The matic weekly drag performances with Cookie

Dough, DJ MC2, and guests, Thursdays, 10 p.m., cookievision.

com. The Edge. 4149 18th St., S.F., 863-4027, www.edgesf.com.

stone's piano-playing alter ego. Mondays, 9 p.m., free. Martuni's,

the City. Wednesdays, 7 & 9 p.m., \$20-\$25, trannyshack.com.

1772 Market Street, 1772 Market St., S.F., 371-9705, https://www.

Some Thing: Art drag night with craft table. Fridays, \$5. The Stud,

Starlet: A Journey to Old Hollywood: Ana Mae Coxxx presents a

benefit for Maetri Compassionate Care featuring drag performances

by Raquela, Ruby Holiday, Persia, and many more, Fri., June 7, 9

p.m. Cafe Flore, 2298 Market, S.F., 621-8579, www.cafeflore.com.

11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m., \$39.95. Harry Denton's Starlight Room, 450

Sunday's a Drag: Brunch & drag revue with Donna Sachet. Sundays,

Tinsel Tarts in a Hot Coma: The Next Cockettes Musical: Revival of

the 1971 drag musical extravaganza. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.

Continues through June 29, \$30-\$35. The Hypnodrome, 575 10th

Piano Bar 101: Open mic cabaret with Joe Collins Wicht, Trauma Flint-

Sex and the City: Live!: A drag rendition of the HBO series Sex and

4 Valencia, S.F., 241-0205, martunis, vpquides, net.

399 Ninth St., S.F., 863-6623, www.studsf.com.

Powell, S.F., 395-8595, www.harrydenton.com.

St., S.F., 377-4202, www.thrillpeddlers.com.

facebook.com/1760MarketStreet.

rotating co-hosts and DJs. Tuesdays, 11 p.m., \$3-\$5. The Stud, 399

399 Ninth St., S.F., 863-6623, www.studsf.com.

1900 Folsom, S.F., 252-0306, www.trucksf.com.

S.F., 441-2922, www.auntcharlieslounge.com.

https://www.facebook.com/1760MarketStreet.

Ninth St., S.F., 863-6623, www.studsf.com.

S.F., 824-3890, www.atasite.org.

among the piles of books that haven't yet been transported to Adobe's new home (on 24th Street), which you know will be alternately charming, sad, and triumphant (it also may be your last chance to hang out there). "In a true Instant City-style celebration, there will also be something unexpected and something extraordinary," promises the invite. Since this is the first issue in two years of what has otherwise been a biannual journal, party organizers will likely make good on that promise.

The Instant City 8 release party starts at 6:30 p.m. at Adobe Books, 3166 16th St., S.F. Free; call 864-3936 or visit instantcity.org. **EVAN KARP**



COMEDY

Aisha Tyler: Two nights of cerebral sass from the voice of Archer's Lana Kane, Fri., June 7, \$25, Cobb's Comedy Club, 915 Columbus. S.F., 928-4320, www.cobbscomedy.com

Bad Movie Night: The Haunting: Hosts Jim Fourniadis, Jason Wiener, and Tristan Buckner watch this 1999 "thriller" that's laugh-out-loud terrible. Sun., June 9, 8 p.m., \$6.99. Dark Room Theater, 2263

Bob Saget: The man who played mild-mannered Danny Tanner on Full House is actually much less family friendly — and much more funny — on a comedy stage. David Feldman opens. Fri., June 7, 9 p.m., \$35-\$52. The Regency Ballroom, 1290 Sutter, S.F., 673-5716,

The Business: A Comedy Show: Sketch and stand-up comedy.

Cobb's Summer Comedy Bash: With Dennis Gaxiola, Richard Villa, Kabir "Kabeezy" Singh, Ellis Rodriguez, Ric James, and Casey Balsham. Sun., June 9, 7:30 p.m., \$15. Cobb's Comedy Club, 915 Columbus, S.F., 928-4320, www.cobbscomedv.com.

Comedy Blast: Stand-up comedy with Danny Dechi and guests. Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., free, dannydechi.com, Neck of the Woods,

Mosely, Margo Gomez, David Hawkins, Miss Persia, Loren Kraut, and Robert Parra, Thu., June 6, 8 p.m., free, comedybodega.com. Esta Noche, 3079 16th St., S.E., 861-5757, www.estanocheclub.com.

free, BrainWash Cafe & Laundromat, 1122 Folsom, S.F., 861-3663. www.brainwash.com

Comedy Returns to El Rio!: The Obligatory June Gay Comedy Night: Lisa Geduldig hosts homo-friendly stand-up routines by Karinda Dobbins, Bob McIntyre, Bobby Golden, and Maggie Dolan. Mon., June 10, 8 p.m., \$7-\$20, koshercomedy.com. El Rio, 3158

Marina (instead of at it). Thursdays, 8:30 p.m., free. Comet Club, 3111 Fillmore, S.F., 567-5589

Competitive Erotic Fan Fiction: Bryan Cook welcomes Baron Vaughn, Nato Green, Caitlin Gill, Jesse Elias, Sean Keane, Kevin O'Shea, David Gborie, Ivan Hernandez, Jules Posner, and Natasha Muse for a night of off-the-cuff comedy with a Justy amount of sex

Columbus, S.F., 928-4320, www.cobbscomedv.com.

The Cynic Cave: George Chen and Kevin O'Shea host comedians Clare O'Kane, Zack Chiappellone, Brendan Lynch, Hector Rodriguez, Doug Freedman, Austin Wolf-Sothern, and Johnny Taylor, Sat., June 8. 8 p.m., \$10, cyniccave.com, Lost Weekend Video, 1034 Valencia St., S.E., 643-3373, www.lostweekendvideo.com

Dash Kwiatkowski: With guest Sam Davidoff. Tue., June 11, 8 p.m., \$15. Punch Line, 444 Battery, S.F., 397-7573, www.punchlinecomedyclub.com

Donkey Punch Comedy & Burlesque Show: With performances by Moore Devine, Eloisa Bravo, Griffin Daley, Kittie Von Tittie, and Ferosha Titties. Sun., June 9, 8 p.m., \$10, facebook.com/HellaGay-ComedyShow. 1772 Market Street, 1772 Market St., S.F., 371-9705, https://www.facebook.com/1760MarketStreet.

Dueling Pianos at Johnny Foley's: Merry musical sing-alongs. Wednesdays-Saturdays, 9 p.m., free, duelingpianosatfoleys. com. Johnny Foley's Irish House, 243 O'Farrell St., S.F., 954-0777, www.johnnyfoleys.com.

The Eric Show: Hosted by Eric Barry. Tuesdays, 8 p.m., \$5, facebook. com/EricBarryComedy. Milk Bar, 1840 Haight, S.F., 387-6455, www.milksf.com.

F!#&ing Free Fridays: Even your worst ex can't take away your ability to laugh at yourself when EndGames Improv riffs on "Your F!#&ed Up Relationship" every week, Fridays, 10:30 p.m., free. freecomedyfridays.eventbrite.com. Stage Werx 446, 446 Valencia St. S.F., www.stagewerx.org.

A Funny Night for Comedy: Monthly comedy showcase hosted by Natasha Muse. Second Sunday of every month, 7 p.m., \$10, natashamuse.com. Actors Theatre San Francisco. 855 Bush. S.F.. 345-1287, www.actorstheatresf.org.

Hand to Mouth: The Internet: Log on for lolz with comedians Joe Klocek, Caitlin Gill, Natasha Muse, Jabari Davis, Red Scott, and Matt Lieb. Fri., June 7, 10 p.m., \$5-\$8, handtomouthcomedy.com. Dark Room Theater, 2263 Mission, S.F., 401-7987, www.darkroomsf.com.

Harvey's Funny Tuesdays: Hosted by Ronn Vigh. Tuesdays, 9 p.m., free. Harvey's, 500 Castro, S.F., 431-4278, www.harveyssf.com.

The Layover Comedy Night: Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m., free. The Layover, 1517 Franklin, Oakland, 510-834-1517, www.oaklandlayover.com. The Mission Position: Weekly stand-up comedy showcase. Thursdays, 8 p.m., \$10, missionpositionlive.com. Lost Weekend Video,

1034 Valencia St., S.F., 643-3373, www.lostweekendvideo.com. Nick Griffin: June 5-8, \$16-\$22. Punch Line, 444 Battery, S.F., 397-7573, www.punchlinecomedvclub.com.

Nick Palm's Comedy Royale: First Wednesday of every month, 8 p.m., free. Cafe Royale, 800 Post, S.F., 441-4099, www.caferoyale-sf.com.

Mission, S.F., 401-7987, www.darkroomsf.com.

www.theregencyballroom.com.

Wednesdays, 8 p.m., \$5. Dark Room Theater, 2263 Mission, S.F., 401-7987. www.darkroomsf.com.

406 Clement St., S.F., 387-6343, www.neckofthewoodssf.com.

Comedy Bodega: 99% Gay Comedy Festival - Week 1: With Micia

Comedy Night: Open mic hosted by Tony Sparks. Thursdays, 7 p.m.,

Mission, S.F., 282-3325, www.elriosf.com.

Comet Club Comedy: Your free weekly chance to laugh in the

and silliness. Thu., June 6, 8 p.m., \$15. Cobb's Comedy Club. 915 THE CAR RACK SPECIALTY STORE
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Mark Pitta & Friends: Tuesdays, 8 p.m., \$15-\$25. 142 Throckmorton Theatre, 142 Throckmorton, Mill Valley, 383-9600. www.142throckmortontheatre.com.

Secret Improv Society: Underground improvisational theater. Saturdays, 10 p.m., \$15. Shelton Theater, 533 Sutter, S.F., 433-3040, www.sheltontheater.com.

Shitprov: A Comedy Show: Hosted by Andrew Moore and Justin Gomes, Tuesdays, 9 p.m., facebook.com/SylvanProductions, Dirty Trix Saloon, 408 Clement St., S.F., 515-5222, www.dirtvtrix.com.

ENVIRONMENTAL

The Future Is Electric: Plug In and Get There: Plug-in electric car demonstration and workshop presented by S.F. Environment and the California Center for Sustainable Energy. Sat., June 8, 10:30 a.m., free, energycenter.org/cyrp-events, San Francisco Main Library, 100 Larkin, S.F., 557-4400, www.sfpl.org.

FESTIVALS

12th Annual San Francisco Documentary Film Festival: SF Indie's

DocFest returns for another year of non-fiction documentaries. cinéma vérité, and short films on topics such as Bettie Page. Burning Man, gueer hip-hop, gentrification, public schools, Pussy Riot, the Pirate Bay, disabled athletes, Antarctica, and even Thee Oh Sees' Petey Dammit, Venues include the Roxie Theater (June 6-20), Balboa Theatre (June 7-9), Aquarius Theatre in Palo Alto (June 9-11), New Parkway Theater in Oakland (June 14-16), and Rio Theatre in Santa Cruz (June 21-23). See the festival website for full schedule lineups, film synopses, program tickets, and more. June 6-23, \$11, sfindie.com. Multiple Bay Area Locations, S.F..

16th Annual United States of Asian America Festival: Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month celebration with citywide events in theater, music, dance, visual arts, poetry, and other disciplines. Through June 16, apiculturalcenter.org. Multiple San Francisco Locations, multiple addresses, S.F.

35th Anniversary San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival: Featuring a performance by Charya Burt Cambodian Dance. Sat., June 8, 8 p.m., \$38, sfethnicdancefestival.com. Florence Gould Theater at the Legion of Honor, 100 34th Ave., S.F., 863-3330, www.famsf.org/legion/index.asp.

Cultivate: Food, Ideas, and Music Festival: The Chipotle restaurant chain presents this free afternoon nosh-fest featuring music by Mayer Hawthorne, The Walkmen, Walk the Moon, LP, Matt Costa, and Chris Golub. The festival's culinary offerings include food, wine, and beer tastings as well as live presentations by food celebs like Richard Blais. Michael Chiarello, Amanda Freitag, Sarah & Evan Rich, and others. Sat., June 8, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m., free, chipotle.com/cultivate/SanFrancisco. aspx, Golden Gate Park, Speedway Meadow, John F. Kennedy, S.F.

First Annual SEJAZZ Poetry Festival: Icons: With poets Al Young. Ishmael Reed, and Michael McClure, plus live musical improvisations by George Brooks, Sat., June 8, 7:30 & 9 p.m., \$15, SFJAZZ Center, 205 Franklin St., S.F., www.sfjazz.org.

First Annual SFJAZZ Poetry Festival: Laureates: With poets Juan Felipe Herrera and Alejandro Murguía. Thu., June 6, 7:30 & 9 p.m., \$15. SFJAZZ Center, 205 Franklin St., S.F., www.sfjazz.org.

First Annual SFJAZZ Poetry Festival: Oakland's Own: With poets Lucha Corpi, Jack & Adelle Foley, Floyd Salas, and Claire Ortalda. Sun., June 9, 7:30 & 9 p.m., \$15. SFJAZZ Center, 205 Franklin St., S.F., www.sfjazz.org.

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First Annual SFJAZZ Poetry Festival: Sisters: With poets Lorna Dee Cervantes, Genny Lim, Indira Allegra, Boadiba, Tennessee Reed, and Neli Moody, plus live musical improvisations by Stephen Cervantes and Melecio Magdaluvo, Fri., June 7, 7:30 & 9 p.m., \$15. SFJAZZ Center, 205 Franklin St., S.F., www.sfiazz.org.

Haight-Ashbury Street Fair: free, www.haightashburystreetfair. org, Haight-Ashbury, Haight, S.F.,

Kunst-Stoff Arts Fest 2013: This multidisciplinary festival includes a wide variety of dance performances, movement workshops, music, film, free community events, and more, Through June 7. Up to \$15, kunst-stoffsf.org/events, Kunst-Stoff Arts, 1 Grove St., S.F., 777-0172, www.kunst-stoff.org.

National Queer Arts Festival: A gigantic, monthlong cavalcade of arts events and performances — including films, theater, dance, visual art, and more - culminating in the big Pride Parade on Sunday, June 30. Through June 30, queerculturalcenter.org. Multiple San Francisco Locations, multiple addresses, S.F.

New Filipino Cinema 2013: Festival of fresh films from the Philippines, including many U.S. premiere screenings, June 5-9, \$8-\$10, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission, S.F., 978-2787, www.ybca.org.

Third Annual Legacy Film Festival on Aging: A showcase of 25 films focusing on the "challenges and triumphs" of growing older. June 7-9, \$9-\$12 per screening (or \$40 for festival pass). SFSU Campus/ Fine Arts Building, 1600 Holloway, S.F., 338-6535, www.sfsu.edu.

FOOD AND DRINK

18th Hour Café: A changing weekly menu of beer, wine, cheese. and small bites for sale under \$20. Thursdays, 6-10 p.m., \$3-\$16. 18 Reasons. 3674 18th St., S.F., 241-9760, www.18reasons.org.

Alemany Farmers' Market: This bustling Saturday produce market has been a city institution for over 75 years. Saturdays, 6 a.m., free. Alemany Farmers Market, 100 Alemany, S.F., 647-9423.

Dinner and a Movie: Weekly screenings in the Bottle Cap dining room. Sundays, 7 p.m. Bottle Cap, 1707 Powell, S.F., 529-2237, www.bottlecapsf.com

Bottomless Mimosa Brunch: With music by Paul Griffiths & The Scofflaws. Sun., June 9, 12-4 p.m. Balancoire, 2565 Mission St., S.F., 920-0577, www.balancoiresf.com.

Brunch with Michael Athans: Sundays, 10 a.m., \$79 (\$45 for kids under 12). Top of the Mark, One Nob Hill, 999 California, S.F., 616-6916, www.intercontinentalmarkhopkins.com.

Cultivate: Food, Ideas, and Music Festival: The Chipotle restaurant chain presents this free afternoon nosh-fest featuring music by Mayer Hawthorne, The Walkmen, Walk the Moon, LP, Matt Costa, and Chris Golub. The festival's culinary offerings include food, wine, and beer tastings as well as live presentations by food celebs like Richard Blais. Michael Chiarello, Amanda Freitag, Sarah & Evan Rich, and others. Sat., June 8, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., free, chipotle.com/cultivate/SanFrancisco. aspx, Golden Gate Park, Speedway Meadow, John F, Kennedy, S.F.

Dine About Town 2013: Choose from over 100 restaurants — ranging from A(bsinthe) to Z(ingari) — during this fortnight when two- or three-course prix fixe lunches are all \$18.95 and three-course dinners cost \$36.95. Visit the S.F. Travel website for information about participating restaurants, menus, and reservations, Through June 15, \$18.95/\$36.95, sanfrancisco.travel/dine/dine-about-town. Multiple Bay Area Locations, S.F..

Fermentation for Summer Vibrancy: Wed., June 5, 7-9 p.m., \$60, www.brownpapertickets.com/event/376032.18 Reasons, 3674 18th St., S.F., 241-9760, www.18reasons.org.

Ferry Plaza Saturday Farmers' Market: For sale are fresh fruits and vegetables as well as honey, bread, cheese, and other goods from local growers and producers. Saturdays, 10 a.m., free, >>

countries, kicking off with San Franciscobased filmmaker Sari Gilman's Oscarnominated documentary King's Point, a look at the denizens of a Florida retirement resort. Gilman will be on hand for a Q&A to discuss her film, which recently won Best Documentary Short at the San Francisco International Film Festival. Another mustsee is Icelandic director Fridrik Thor Fridriksson's quasi-autobiographical Mamma Gógó, about a filmmaker dealing with his mother's descent into Alzheimer's — as well as the fact that audiences are avoiding his films about aging. Here's to hoping fes-

The Legacy Film Festival on Aging runs June 7-9 at the Coppola Theater, San Ave, S.F. Admission is \$9-\$12; call 338-SHERILYN CONNELLY

VALENCIA CYCLERY PROUDLY SUPPORTS



Project Open Hand

meals with love

Project Open Hand provides food and compassion to improve the quality of life for the men, women and children it serves. Project Oper Hand programs include: meal, gracery and nutrition counseling for people with symptomatic HIV and AIDS; congregate lunch and nutri-tion education for people over 60 years of age; meal service for hamebound and critically ill people under the age of 60. Services are available to eligible clients living in San Francisco and Alameda ounties, regardless of their race, color, national origin, age, gends sexual orientation, religious affiliation, disability or ability to pay.

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388 POTRERO AVE. (415) 626-4238 M-F 8:30-6:00

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that over 95 million Americans are currently over the age of 50, you're obviously not alone. The third annual Legacy Film Festival on Aging aims to entertain and educate audiences of every demographic about what it means to age, and how to go about doing it in a way that doesn't make you feel — for want of a better word — old. Taking place in the Coppola Theater at San

Francisco State University, the festival of-

It'll happen to you, if you're lucky: You'll be

in the shower, and you'll notice a liver spot

on the back of your hand where there

wasn't one before. It's just another sign

that you're getting older, and considering

fers 24 films of varying lengths from seven tivals like this change that.

Francisco State University, 1600 Holloway 2467 or visit legacyfilmfestivalonaging.org. cuesa.org. Ferry Building, 1 Ferry Building, S.F., 983-8000, www. ferrybuildingmarketplace.com.

Fort Mason Center Farmers' Market: Neither rain nor fog deters this weekly market from offering a variety of seasonal California fruits, vegetables, and flowers. Sundays, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., free, cafarmersmkts.com/fmc.html. Fort Mason, 38 Fort Mason, S.F., 345-7500, www.fortmason.org.

Godzuki Happy Hour: Sushi and booze for all my friends! Wednesdays, 5-8 p.m., free. The Knockout, 3223 Mission, S.F., 550-6994, www.theknockoutsf.com.

Half-Shell Happy Hour: Free oysters (while they last, which ain't long) every Friday evening. Fridays, 5:30 p.m. El Rio, 3158 Mission, S.F., 282-3325, www.elriosf.com.

Heart of the City Farmers' Market: Thrice-weekly market featuring fruits, vegetables, nuts, eggs, and other forms of sustenance from local growers. Wednesdays, 7 a.m.; Fridays, 7 a.m.; Sundays, 7 a.m., free, www. hocfarmersmarket.org. United Nations Plaza, Market, S.F., 674-9701.

Off the Grid: A rotating collection of food cart vendors circle their wagons at this weekly event also featuring beer, wine, and live music. Fridays, 5-10 p.m., otgfmc.com. Fort Mason, 38 Fort Mason, S.F., 345-7500, www.fortmason.org.

Pour Your Support: 11th Annual Urban Services YMCA Wine Tasting & Silent Auction: Oenophile fundraiser for S.F. Urban Services YMCA community programs and social services. Fri., June 7, 6-10 p.m., \$60-\$70, pouryoursupport.eventbrite.com. Zephyr Showroom, 2277 Alameda St., S.F., 552-8033, www.zephyronline. com/get_inspired/showroom.

Queer Youth Meal Night: Free meals and movies in a safe environment for trans/queer/ally friends. Tuesdays, 5 p.m., free. San Francisco LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market, S.F., 865-5555, www.sfcenter.org.

The San Francisco Burger Brawl: Discover what victory tastes like when local restaurants and food carts compete for the title of Best Burger in two separate sessions (lunch and dinner). Sat., June 8, 12 & 4:30 p.m., \$10-\$50, sfburgerbrawl.eventbrite.com. Fort Mason, Festival Pavilion, Marina, S.F., 292-3531, www.fortmason.org.

Sunday's a Drag: Brunch & drag revue with Donna Sachet. Sundays, 11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m., \$39.95. Harry Denton's Starlight Room, 450 Powell, S.F., 395-8595, www.harrydenton.com.

LGBT EVENTS

The 2013 S.F. Queen of Queens Pageant: Drag competition hosted by Ana Mae Coxxx and Ginger Snap, plus previous winners Savannah Summers and Ruby Holiday. Sun., June 9, 8:30 p.m., \$5. The Stud, 399 Ninth St., S.F., 863-6623, www.studsf.com.

BeatBox Country: A new LGBT country-western dance night by the people from Sundance Saloon. Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., \$6, sundancesaloon.org. BeatBox, 31411th St., S.F., 500-2675, www.beatboxsf.com.

Blur: Transgender & Gender-Variant Support Group: Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Dimensions Clinic, 3850 17th St., S.F., 934-7789, www. dimensionsclinic.org.

Bollywood Divas: Queering Desi Cinema: Desi cinema goes drag in two films — Anuj Vaidya's Bad Girl with a Heart of Gold and Kareem Khubchandani's Lessons in Drag — presented by 3rd i. Sat., June 8, 7 p.m., \$10-\$12, thirdi.org. Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia, S.F., 824-3890, www.atasite.org.

Booksmith Bookswap: Pride Edition: With special guests Michelle Tea and Ali Liebegott. Fri., June 7, 6:30 p.m., \$25 (includes dinner & open bar). The Booksmith, 1644 Haight, S.F., 863-8688, www. booksmith.com.

The Fairoaks Project: Photographs by Frank Melleno: Gary Freeman curates this collection of enlarged Polaroids portraying daily life at the Fairoaks Hotel, a gay bathhouse operating in San Francisco from 1977-'79. June 7-30. Center for Sex & Culture, 1349 Mission, S.F., 902-2071, www.sexandculture.org.

Cocktailgate: Hosted by Suppositori Spelling. Sundays, 9 p.m. Truck, 1900 Folsom. S.F., 252-0306. www.trucksf.com.

Comedy Bodega: 99% Gay Comedy Festival – Week 1: With Micia Mosely, Margo Gomez, David Hawkins, Miss Persia, Loren Kraut, and Robert Parra. Thu., June 6, 8 p.m., free, comedybodega.com. Esta Noche, 3079 16th St., S.F., 861-5757, www.estanocheclub.com.

Comedy Returns to El Rio!: The Obligatory June Gay Comedy Night: Lisa Geduldig hosts homo-friendly stand-up routines by Karinda Dobbins, Bob McIntyre, Bobby Golden, and Maggie Dolan. Mon., June 10, 8 p.m., \$7-\$20, koshercomedy.com. El Rio, 3158 Mission. S.F. 282-3325. www.elriosf.com.

Christy Cruse: Sundays, 9 p.m., free. Aunt Charlie's Lounge, 133 Turk, S.F., 441-2922, www.auntcharlieslounge.com.

Diva Darlings: Thursdays, 10:30 p.m. Divas, 1081 Post, S.F., 474-3482, www.divassf.com.

Donkey Punch Comedy & Burlesque Show: With performances by Moore Devine, Eloisa Bravo, Griffin Daley, Kittie Von Tittie, and Ferosha Titties. Sun., June 9, 8 p.m., \$10, facebook.com/HellaGay-ComedyShow. 1772 Market Street, 1772 Market St., S.F., 371-9705, https://www.facebook.com/1760MarketStreet.

Drink and Be Mary: Gay boys (and friends) enjoy two-for-one drinks every day until 9 p.m. Daily. Q Bar, 456 Castro, S.F., 864-2877, www.gbarsf.com.

Gay Men's Sketch: Drop-in life drawing. Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. Mark I. Chester Studio, 1229 Folsom, S.F., 621-6294, www. markichester.com.

Hedwig and the Angry Inch: The comical and rocking LGBT musical favorite. Wednesdays-Saturdays, \$15-\$39. Boxcar Playhouse, 505 Natoma. S.F., 776-1747. www.boxcartheatre.org.

Honey: Community building group celebrating LBTQQ young women. Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m., free. LYRIC, 123-127 Collingwood, S.F., 703-6150, www.lyric.org.

M.E.E.T.: Community building group celebrating GBTQQ young men. Fridays, 4-6 p.m., free. LYRIC, 123-127 Collingwood, S.F., 703-6150, www.lyric.org.

Meow Mix: A weekly cabaret show hosted by Ferosha Titties, with rotating co-hosts and DJs. Tuesdays, 11 p.m., \$3-\$5. The Stud, 399 Ninth St., S.F., 863-6623, www.studsf.com.

Out of the Boxes: Historical Society Opens Archives of Pioneering Historian Alian Bérubé: Bérubé was one of the pioneers in the field of community-based gay history that emerged in the 1970s and early 1980s. The GLBT Historical Society has opened his papers for use by researchers. Daily. GLBT Historical Society, 657 Mission, S.F., 777-5455, www.glbthistory.org.

Piano Bar 101: Open mic cabaret with Joe Collins Wicht, Trauma Flintstone's piano-playing alter ego. Mondays, 9 p.m., free. Martuni's, 4 Valencia, S.F., 241-0205, martunis.ypguides.net.

Queer Youth Meal Night: Free meals and movies in a safe environment for trans/queer/ally friends. Tuesdays, 5 p.m., free. San Francisco LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market, S.F., 865-5555, www.sfcenter.org.

Radar SuperStars: Michelle Tea hosts Jibz "Dynasty Handbag" Cameron, Thomas McBee, Maryam Rostrami, and Brian Freeman. Wed., June 5, 6 p.m., free, 557-4400, radarproductions.org. Main Library, Koret Auditorium, 100 Larkin, S.F., www.sfpl.org.

S.F. FrontRunners' Run: Each week a gay-friendly group of runners meets for a 3-to-5-mile jog from the Embarcadero to Aquatic Park. Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., www.sffrontrunners.org. Ferry Building, 1 Ferry Building, S.F., 983-8000, www.ferrybuildingmarketplace.com.

Zeitgeist: The Queer Cultural Center's annual group exhibition exploring contemporary trends in LGBT culture. Part of the National Queer Arts Festival. Tuesdays-Saturdays. Continues through June 30. SOMArts Cultural Center, 934 Brannan, S.F., 863-1414, www.somarts.org.

Starlet: A Journey to Old Hollywood: Ana Mae Coxxx presents a benefit for Maetri Compassionate Care featuring drag performances by Raquela, Ruby Holiday, Persia, and many more. Fri., June 7, 9 p.m. Cafe Flore, 2298 Market, S.F., 621-8579, www.cafeflore.com.

Sundance Saloon: Gay-friendly country dancing. Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m., \$5, sundancesaloon.org. Space 550, 550 Barneveld, S.F., 550-8286, www.space550.com.

Sunday Open Gyms: The San Francisco Gay Basketball Association. Sundays, \$5, www.sfgba.com. Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 100 Collingwood, S.F., 831-6810, www.sfgov.org.

Tinsel Tarts in a Hot Coma: The Next Cockettes Musical: Revival of the 1971 drag musical extravaganza. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. **SAT** 6/8

▼ DANCE

JOIN THE PAGEANT

Liz Tenuto and Justin Morrison are young and beautiful, and they have things to show you in **Pageantry**, their shared evening of new work at CounterPULSE. Quirky, gesture-based, and unafraid of being uncomfortably close to each other and to the audience, Tenuto and her dancers present a dance in two parts that ruminates on the darker side of change. Treating themes as abstract as devotion and as particular as the "authoritarian nature of

dance and theater making," Tenuto's work crosses a range of dance idioms to make a theatrical statement that never loses sight of humor and the absurd. Morrison, known for his weekly contact improv jams as well as frequent appearances with a number of Bay Area dance companies, premieres WEAPON, a solo that considers touch and tools, man and nature, violence and desire. Together, the dances explore the range between camp and genuine feeling as exhibited in the gestures of life and the practice of technique.

Pageantry is at 8 p.m. June 7-9 at CounterPULSE, 1310 Mission St, S.F. Tickets are \$15; visit counterpulse.org. IRENE HSIAO

Continues through June 29, \$30-\$35. The Hypnodrome, 575 10th St., S.F., 377-4202, www.thrillpeddlers.com.

Transmagic: Community building group celebrating trans/gendervariant youth. Tuesdays, 4-6 p.m., free. LYRIC, 123-127 Collingwood, S.F., 703-6150, www.lyric.org.

LITERARY EVENTS

82nd Annual California Book Awards: Thu., June 6, 6 p.m., \$15-\$20. Commonwealth Club, 595 Market, S.F., 597-6700, www. commonwealthclub.org.

Bazaar Writers Salon: Hosted by Peter Kline. Wed., June 5, 7:30 p.m. Bazaar Cafe, 5927 California, S.F., 831-5620, www.bazaarcafe.com. Booksmith Bookswap: Pride Edition: With special guests Michelle Tea and Ali Liebegott. Fri., June 7, 6:30 p.m., \$25 (includes dinner & open bar). The Booksmith, 1644 Haight, S.F., 863-8688, www. booksmith.com.

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: The Nigerian author reads from her debut novel, Half of a Yellow Sun. Wed., June 5, 7 p.m., free. Bookshop West Portal, 80 W. Portal, S.F., 564-8080, www. bookshopwestportal.com.

First Annual SFJAZZ Poetry Festival: Icons: With poets Al Young, Ishmael Reed, and Michael McClure, plus live musical improvisations by George Brooks. Sat., June 8, 7:30 & 9 p.m., \$15. SFJAZZ Center, 205 Franklin St., S.F., www.sfjazz.org.

First Annual SFJAZZ Poetry Festival: Laureates: With poets Juan Felipe Herrera and Alejandro Murguía. Thu., June 6, 7:30 & 9 p.m., \$15. SFJAZZ Center, 205 Franklin St., S.F., www.sfjazz.org.

First Annual SFJAZZ Poetry Festival: Oakland's Own: With poets Lucha Corpi, Jack & Adelle Foley, Floyd Salas, and Claire Ortalda. Sun., June 9, 7:30 & 9 p.m., \$15. SFJAZZ Center, 205 Franklin St., S.F., www.sfjazz.org.

First Annual SFJAZZ Poetry Festival: Sisters: With poets Lorna Dee Cervantes, Genny Lim, Indira Allegra, Boadiba, Tennessee Reed, and Neli Moody, plus live musical improvisations by Stephen Cervantes and Melecio Magdaluyo. Fri., June 7, 7:30 & 9 p.m., \$15. SFJAZZ Center, 205 Franklin St., S.F., www.sfjazz.org.

How!! The Wild Birth of San Francisco Values: Salon magazine founder David Talbot discusses his S.F. history book Season of the Witch: Enchantment, Terror, and Deliverance in the City of Love, which delves into San Francisco's chaotic culture and politics during the 1960s, '70s, and '80s. Tue., June 11, 7:30 p.m., \$10. Old Mint, 88 Fifth St., S.F., 537-1105, www.themintproject.org.

Instant City Issue #8 Release Party: Featuring contributors Trent Tano,

Alia Volz, Loren Rhoads, William Poor, Sean Taylor, and Alvin Orloff. Fri., June 7, 6:30 p.m., instantcity.org. Adobe Books Backroom Gallery, 3166 16th St., S.F., 864-3936, www.myspace.com/adobebooks.

Lauren Beukes: The South African novelist reads from her genremashing latest book, *The Shining Girls*. Fri., June 7, 7 p.m., free. Borderlands Books, 866 Valencia, S.F., 824-8203, www. borderlands-books.com.

Paxton Gate Storyhour: Readings of chosen books for children. Thursdays, noon, free, 252-9990. Paxton Gate's Curiosities for Kids, 766 Valencia, S.F., www.paxtongate.com.

Quiet Lightning: Neighborhood Heroes: Featuring Allen Ginsberginspired readings by Jane Smiley, Glen David Gold, Lisa Brackmann, Michael David Lukas, Susan Steinberg, Kevin Killian, Joseph Lease, Tom Comitta, Karen Penley, and Chris Peck the Town Crier. Thu., June 6, 6:30 p.m., \$5, quietlightning.org. Contemporary Jewish Museum, 736 Mission, S.F., 655-7800, www.thecjm.org.

Radar SuperStars: Michelle Tea hosts Jibz "Dynasty Handbag" Cameron, Thomas McBee, Maryam Rostrami, and Brian Freeman. Wed., June 5, 6 p.m., free, 557-4400, radarproductions.org. Main Library, Koret Auditorium, 100 Larkin, S.F., www.sfpl.org.

Thursdays at Readers Poetry Series: Weekly readings by local poets and visiting guests inside the SFPL's Fort Mason bookstore and coffeeshop. Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., free. Readers Cafe, Building C, Fort Mason Center, S.F., 724-7512, www.readerscafe.org.

Maurice Sendak: 50 Years, 50 Works, 50 Reasons: Celebrating the 50th anniversary of *Where the Wild Things Are*, this exhibition includes 50 original works from the iconic children's book. Through July 7. The Walt Disney Family Museum, 104 Montgomery, S.F., 345-6800, www.waltdisney.org.

Wild Girls Mother + Daughter Book Club: Second Sunday of every month, 1 p.m., free. Books Inc./Laurel Village, 3515 California, S.F., 221-3666, www.booksinc.net.

Writers with Drinks: Spoken-word variety show that mixes genres—including poetry, stand-up comedy, sci-fi, romance, mystery, erotica, memoir, and more—to raise money for local nonprofits. Second Saturday of every month, 7:30 p.m., \$5-\$10, writerswithdrinks.com. Make-Out Room. 3275 22nd St. S.F. 647-2888. www.makeoutroom.com.

MUSEUM EXHIBITS AND EVENTS

Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. In a New Light: The Asian Art Museum Collection: A display of more than 2,500 objects from the museum's permanent collection explores the major cultures of Asia.

FRI 6/7

▼ DANCE

DANCING THE WRITTEN WORD

If you think ballets about fairy tales are played out, **Sarah Berges** shows that you can make dances about other forms of the written word: Letters, historical novels, and legends all feature in her new works premiering at Dance Mission Theater. *The Letter* commemorates the handwritten letter in times of war with an original score by

Steven Weinstock. Antipodes, based on Hilary Mantel's 2012 Man Booker Prize-winning novel, Bring Up the Bodies, retraces the spicy history of the Tudors accompanied live on cello by Dawn Foster Dodson. Return to the simpler narrative of boy-meetsgirl (without the prospect of beheadings, and with a fish tail thrown in) and you get Mermaid, set to Ravel. Sunday matinee features a kid-friendly program.

Sarah Berges Dance performs at 8 p.m. and 3 p.m., June 7-9 at Dance Mission Theater, 3316 24th St, S.F. Tickets are \$10-\$15; visit sarahbergesdance.com. IRENE HSIAO



Daily. Free with museum admission. Proximities 1: What Time Is It There?: Group show that envisions Asian culture and mythology as seen by outsiders, including artists Elisheva Biernoff, Lisa K. Blatt, Ala Ebtekar, James Gobel, Tucker Nichols, Larry Sultan, and Andrew Witrak. Tuesdays-Sundays. Continues through July 21. 200 Larkin, S.F., 581-3500, www.asianart.org.

The Beat Museum. Permanent Collection: Glimpse into the poetic. exuberant lives of Jack Kerouac, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Allen Ginsberg, Neal Cassady, and other Beat Generation characters via original manuscripts, memorabilia, letters, personal items. and other ephemera, Daily, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. \$5-\$8, 540 Broadway. S.F., 399-9626, www.thebeatmuseum.org.

Cable Car Museum. Permanent Collection: Located in a historic cable car powerhouse, the museum displays a variety of cable car gear, historic photographs, installations explaining how the cars work, and several antique vehicles. Daily. Free. 1201 Mason, S.F., 474-1887,

California Historical Society Museum. Curating the Bay: Crowdsourcing a New Environmental History: In honor of the "Year of the Bay," this exhibit features 150 objects from the CHS collections that reflect the bay's environmental and cultural history. Tuesdays-Sundays. Continues through Aug. 25. \$5 suggested donation. 678 Mission, S.F., 357-1848, www.californiahistoricalsociety.org.

Cartoon Art Museum. I See What You Say: Visual Stories and Narrative Art: Group show about storytelling without words via picture books, comics, editorial art, and other illustrative media forms. Tuesdays-Sundays, Continues through July 7, \$3-\$7, 655 Mission. S.F., 227-8666, www.cartoonart.org.

Conservatory of Flowers. Butterflies & Blooms: Hundreds of butterflies — including monarchs, swallowtails, painted ladies, and more — flutter among the flowers in an exhibition sure to please lepidopterists and botanists alike. Tuesdays-Sundays. Continues through Oct. 20. \$2-\$7.100 John F Kennedy Drive, S.F., 666-7001, www.conservatoryofflowers.org.

Contemporary Jewish Museum. Being Jewish: A Bay Area Portrait: A mural of community photos and objects that reflect the flavor of Jewish life in the Bay Area. Daily. Black Sabbath: The Secret Musical History of Black-Jewish Relations: An interactive exhibit featuring music and video recordings that illustrate the cultural influences shared by Jews and African-Americans alike, including performances in such genres as jazz, soul, showtunes, and more. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays-Sundays. Beat Memories: The Photographs of Allen Ginsberg: Includes portraits of William S. Burroughs, Neal Cassady, Gregory Corso, Jack Kerouac, and other cultural cohorts by the hugely influential poet. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays-Sundays, Continues through Sept. 8. \$5-\$12. Drop-in Art Making: Make art with your kids. Every Sunday from 1 to 3 p.m. Sundays, 736 Mission, S.F., 655-7800, www.thecim.org.

Fort Mason. Outdoor Exploratorium: Outdoor art and science exhibit. Daily, free, 38 Fort Mason, S.F., 345-7500, www.fortmason.org.

GLBT Historical Society. Out of the Boxes: Historical Society Opens Archives of Pioneering Historian Allan Bérubé: Bérubé was one of the pioneers in the field of community-based gay history that emerged in the 1970s and early 1980s. The GLBT Historical Society has opened his papers for use by researchers, Daily, 657 Mission. S.F., 777-5455, www.glbthistory.org.

The Holocaust Center of Northern California. Letters: 1938-1946: Letters selected from the center's archives that detail the harrowing danger of living in Nazi-occupied Europe. Mondays-Thursdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. 121 Steuart, S.F., 777-9060, www.tauber-

Legion of Honor. Bowles Porcelain Gallery: Porcelain from England and continental Europe. Daily. Darren Waterston: A Compendium of Creatures: These 12 color aquatints from the artist's portfolio A Swarm, A Flock, A Host: A Compendium of Creatures update the concept of the medieval bestiary. Tuesdays-Sundays. Continues through Dec. 29. \$6-\$10. Gifts from the Gods: Art and the Olympic Ideal: A collection of Greek, Roman, and relatively modern works celebrating the Olympic Games and the ideals surrounding them. Tuesdays-Sundays, Continues through June 23, \$6-\$10. Impressionists on the Water: Over 80 nautically themed paintings by Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Camille Pissarro, and others. Tuesdays-Sundays. Continues through Oct. 13. \$6-\$10. 100 34th Ave., S.F., 750-3600.

San Francisco Main Library. Digging Deep: Underneath San Francisco Public Library: Historical artifacts found at the library site, which was once a cemetery as well as City Hall. Daily. 100 Larkin, S.F., 557-4400, www.sfpl.org.

Mexican Museum. An Inspired Gift: The Rex May Collection of Popular Art: Mexican folk art paintings, wooden sculptures, ceramics, glass, and textiles. Thursdays-Sundays. Continues through March 16. free. Marina & Buchanan, S.F., 202-9700, www.mexicanmuseum.org.

Museo ItaloAmericano. Contemporaneity: Signs of Modern Times: Group exhibit by the Sedna art collective: Paride Bianco, Silvia Cossich Goodman, Milena Pedrollo, Maurizio Piccirillo, and Ivano Zanetti. Tuesdays-Sundays, 12-4 p.m. Continues through July 21. free. Fort Mason, Bldg. C, S.F., 673-2200, www.museoitaloamericano.org.

The Presidio Trust. Welcome to the Presidio: Two galleries — "Presidio Milestones" and "The Next Chapter: Creating a Future from Our Past" — illustrate the Persidio's transition from a military base into a national park and beyond. Wednesdays-Sundays, 11 a.m.-5 n.m. Continues through Dec. 31, free, 103 Montgomery St., S.E.

561-5300, www.presidio.gov.

Randall Museum. Drop-in Family Ceramics Workshop: Each week the Randall offers drop-in pottery and ceramics workshops. Saturdays, 10:15 a.m. \$6. Drop-in Science Workshop: Each week kids and parents can participate in artistic activities that illuminate some aspect of science. Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. \$4. 199 Museum, S.F., 554-9600, www.randallmuseum.org.

San Francisco Museum of Craft & Design. Michael Cooper: A Sculptural Odvssev. 1968-2011: Sculptures assembled from carved wood and manipulated metal to create hybrids that combine the organic with the mechanical. Tuesdays-Sundays. Rebecca Hutchinson: Affinity: Forest-like installation made from porcelain paperclay, paper, and hanging tree branches. Tuesdays-Sundays. Arline Fisch: Creatures from the Deep: Installation of oversized jellyfish woven from knitted and crocheted copper wire. Tuesdays-Sundays. 2569 3rd St., S.F., 773-0303, www.sfmcd.org.

POETRY AND SPOKEN WORD

16th and Mission Poetry Slam: Unorganized, impromptu gathering of people to sing, dance, shout, and read spoken word. Thursdays, 9 p.m., free, 16thmission.com. 16th St. BART Station, 2000 Mission St., S.F.

Fireside: Storytelling series whose events contain tales on specific themes. First Wednesday of every month, 8 p.m., \$10, www. firesidestorytelling.com, Jellyfish Gallery, 1286 Folsom, S.F.,

First Annual SEJAZZ Poetry Festival: Icons: With poets Al Young. Ishmael Reed, and Michael McClure, plus live musical improvisations by George Brooks. Sat., June 8, 7:30 & 9 p.m., \$15. SFJAZZ Center, 205 Franklin St., S.F., www.sfjazz.org.

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SAT 6/8

▼ MUSIC FESTIVAL

DUELING BANJOS

Folk music is hard to define. To some, it's any music passed down orally. To others, it's noncommercial music with an unknown composer. For many people, it's whatever Woodie Guthrie did. For Richard Rice, one of the producers of the San Francisco Free Folk Festival. it's "anything performed with a banjo in the room." No doubt there will be plenty of banjos in the room during the Free Folk Festival's two days of workshops and jamming. The workshops range from beginning fingerpicking for guitar players to the Indian dance styles of Bollywood. There are over 60 musical performers, including Dust Bowl Revival, The Littlest Birds and Anne and Pete Sibley, who won Best Americana Duo from public radio favorite A Prairie Home Companion. New for this year is a folk film festival, with the West Coast premiere of For the Love of the Music: The Club 47 Folk Revival, a documentary about the famed folk mecca Club 47. There's also a kids area with singing lessons and an open mic for the little ones. This festival is cool by any definition.

The San Francisco Free Folk Festival starts at noon on June 8 and 9 at Presidio Middle School, 450 30th Ave., S.F. Admission is free; visit sffolkfest.org.





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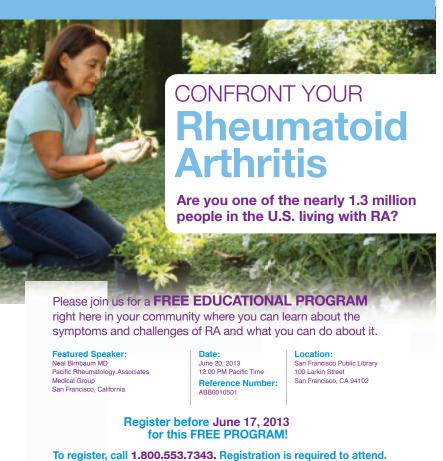


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Holla Back: Weekly poetry open mic with a hip-hop vibe. Thursdays, 7:30-10 p.m., free/donation, all ages, EastSide Arts Alliance, 2277 International, Oakland, 510-533-6629, www.eastsideartsalliance.com.

The Moth StorySLAM: Dan Kennedy hosts this monthly gathering of raconteurs at which 10 volunteers are randomly chosen to tell a five-minute tale. Second Monday of every month, 7 p.m., \$8-\$16, www.themoth.org. Rickshaw Stop, 155 Fell, S.F., 861-2011, www. rickshawstop.com.

Thursdays at Readers Poetry Series: Weekly readings by local poets and visiting guests inside the SFPL's Fort Mason bookstore and coffeeshop, Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., free, Readers Cafe, Building C, Fort Mason Center, S.F., 724-7512, www.readerscafe.org.

SPORTS - PARTICIPATORY

Air Conditioning: Exercise program involving trampolines. Mondays, Wednesdays, 7 p.m.; Saturdays, 8 a.m., \$16. House of Air, 926 Mason, S.F., 345-9675, www.houseofairsf.com.

Air Core: Advanced trampoline workout with Kari Chalstrom. Tuesdays, 9 a.m., \$16. House of Air, 926 Mason, S.F., 345-9675, www.houseofairsf.com.

Downtown San Francisco Kayak Trip: A scenic paddle along the city's central coastline. Saturdays, Sundays, 1 p.m., \$58.50-\$75 advance, citykayak.com, South Beach Harbor, Pier 40, S.F., 495-4911, www.southbeachharbor.com.

Golden Gate Triathalon: Classic triathalon and shorter sprint triathalon features a run across the Golden Gate Bridge, Sun.. June 9. The Sports Basement, 610 Old Mason, S.F., 437-0100, www. sportsbasement.com/SS_web_Presidio.asp.

S.F. FrontRunners' Run: Each week a gay-friendly group of runners $meets for a 3-to-5-mile jog from \, the \, Embarcadero \, to \, Aquatic \, Park.$ Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., www.sffrontrunners.org. Ferry Building, 1 Ferry Building, S.F., 983-8000, www.ferrybuildingmarketplace.com.

SF IndieFest Roller Disco Party: With skate rentals and music provided by the California Outdoor Roller Sports Association. First Friday of every month, 8 p.m. Continues through July 5, \$10, www.sfindie.com. Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 431-1180, www.womensbuilding.org.

TALKS

An Evening Affair with Dan Savage and Daniel Handler: Megapopular syndicated sex columnist Dan Savage shares the stage in conversation with Daniel "Lemony Snicket" Handler. (General admission tickets have sold out, but advance premium tix are still available.). Tue., June 11. 7 p.m., \$40-\$80. Commonwealth Club, 595 Market, S.F., 597-6700, www.commonwealthclub.org.

Howl! The Wild Birth of San Francisco Values: Salon magazine founder David Talbot discusses his S.F. history book Season of the Witch: Enchantment. Terror, and Deliverance in the City of Love, which delves into San Francisco's chaotic culture and politics during the 1960s, '70s, and '80s, Tue., June 11, 7:30 p.m., \$10, Old Mint, 88 Fifth St., S.F., 537-1105, www.themintproject.org.

West Coast Live: Weekly radio show featuring local and touring acts including authors, musicians, and comedians, with host Sedge Thomson. Saturdays, 10 a.m., \$15-\$18, 664-9500, www.wcl.org. Multiple San Francisco Locations, multiple addresses, S.F.

Temple Grandin: In conversation with Adam Savage. Wed., June 5, 7:30 p.m., \$27, cityarts.net. Nourse Theatre, 275 Hayes St., S.F., 563-2463, www.cityarts.net/the-nourse.

THEATER

Abigail's Party: Acclaimed British filmmaker Mike Leigh wrote the script for this satire of 1970s suburban England, Tuesdays-Thursdays, 7 p.m.; Fridays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 3 & 8 p.m. Continues through

- July 6, \$30-\$100. SF Playhouse, 450 Post St., S.F., 677-9596, www.sfplavhouse.org
- Arcadia: Revival of Sir Tom Stoppard's time-iumping 1993 classic. Wednesdays-Sundays, Continues through June 16, \$20-\$95. American Conservatory Theater (A.C.T.), 415 Geary, S.F., 749-2228, www.act-sf.org/site/PageServer.

Black Watch: Bay Area premiere of the National Theatre of Scotland's award-winning drama about Scottish soldiers serving in the War on Terror, Tuesdays-Sundays, Continues through June 16, \$100, act-sf. org, The Armory, 1800 Mission, S.F., 677-0456, www.sfarmory.com.

The Divine Sister: Bay Area premiere of Charles Busch's satirical homage to Hollywood nuns. Wednesdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. Continues through June 29, \$25-\$45. New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness, S.F., 861-8972, www.nctcsf.org.

Fela!: Touring version of the rousing Broadway musical about Fela Anikulapo Kuti, the legendary Afrobeat pioneer and indomitable political activist. Through June 7, 8 p.m.; Sat., June 8, 2 & 8 p.m.; Sun., June 9, 2 & 7:30 p.m., \$39.50-\$79.50. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland, 510-465-6400, www.paramounttheatre.com.

Foodies! The Musical: A musical comedy revue of songs and sketches that take a humorous look at the current food scene. Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m., \$34, foodiesthemusical.com. Shelton Theater, 533 Sutter, S.F., 433-3040, www.sheltontheater.com.

Hedwig and the Angry Inch: The comical and rocking LGBT musical favorite. Wednesdays-Saturdays, \$15-\$39. Boxcar Playhouse, 505 Natoma, S.F., 776-1747, www.boxcartheatre.org.

Krispy Kritters in the Scarlett Night: Rob Melrose directs the world premiere of this surreal. Beat-inspired work by S.F. playwright Andrew Saito. Thursdays-Sundays. Continues through June 16, \$15-\$50. cuttingball.com. The Cutting Ball Theater, 277 Taylor. S.F., 525-1205, www.cuttingball.com.

Monday Night Marsh: Musicians, actors, performance artists, and others take the stage at this regular staging of works in progress. Mondays, \$7. The Marsh Theater, 1062 Valencia St., S.F., 826-5750, www.themarsh.org

Secret Improv Society: Underground improvisational theater. Saturdays, 10 p.m., \$15. Shelton Theater, 533 Sutter, S.F., 433-3040, www.sheltontheater.com.

Sex and the City: Live!: A drag rendition of the HBO series Sex and the City. Wednesdays, 7 & 9 p.m., \$20-\$25, trannyshack.com. 1772 Market Street, 1772 Market St., S.F., 371-9705, https://www. facebook.com/1760MarketStreet.

Steve Seabrook: Better Than You: A satirically comedic one-man show with a self-help theme, written and performed by Kurt Bodden. Thursdays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 8:30 p.m. Continues through June 29. \$15-\$50. The Marsh Theater, 1062 Valencia St., S.F., 826-5750. www.themarsh.org.

National Theatre Live: This House: Live cinema broadcast of James Graham's British political drama being performed onstage in London. Sat., June 8, 12:30 p.m., ntlive.nationaltheatre.org. uk. Sundance Kabuki Cinemas. 1881 Post. S.F., 346-3243, www. sundancecinemas.com/kabuki.html.

Talk Radio: James Baldock directs this adaptation of Eric Bogosian's intense drama, Wednesdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. Continues through June 8, \$18-\$38, Actors Theatre San Francisco, 855 Bush, S.F., 345-1287, www.actorstheatresf.org.

Tinsel Tarts in a Hot Coma: The Next Cockettes Musical: Revival of the 1971 drag musical extravaganza. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. Continues through June 29, \$30-\$35. The Hypnodrome, 575 10th St., S.F., 377-4202, www.thrillpeddlers.com.

Twilight Zone Live: Season X: Even a cursed supernatural fate can be fun when local talents turn Rod Serling's twisty black-and-white TV show into colorful stage productions. Starting June 7, Fridays, Saturdays. Continues through July 27, \$20, tz10.eventbrite.com. Dark Room Theater, 2263 Mission, S.F., 401-7987, www.darkroomsf.com.

Vital Signs: The Pulse of an American Nurse: RN Alison Whittaker spares no details in this one-woman hospital dramedy. Sundays. 7 p.m. Continues through June 16, \$15-\$50, nursealison.com. The Marsh Theater. 1062 Valencia St., S.F., 826-5750, www.themarsh.org.



▼ ADULTS ACTING LIKE CHILDREN

ON THE ROCKS

Abbott

"When all else fails, go with paper," says No. 7 on the World Rock-Paper-Scissors Society's list of sure-fire strategies for the game that insiders know as RPS. Yes, there is a World RPS Society, and its website seems to have been last updated in 2011. On it, you'll find the official rules which govern the world of organized RPS events. One case in point is the weekly bar tournament Wednesday nights at Northstar. Serious players can show up to compete for a \$50 prize. Since everyone will be wearing athletic gear (because drunken RPS is a sport), the Beer Olympics folks will be offering prizes for those best-dressed in sports gear. If you want to attend, read the official rules beforehand at worldrps.com. Then get drunk, show off what you can do, and stick around after the tournament for a soul-funk dance party.

Rock Paper Scissors takes place every Wednesday from 8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. at Northstar, 1560 Powell St., S.F. Free; visit facebook.com/beerpubcrawl/info. **EMILIE MUTERT**



One Hundred Years of Pulchritude

Lawrence Ferlinghetti carries on.

BY JONATHAN CURIEL

t age 94, Lawrence Ferlinghetti is as feisty as ever - certainly as feisty as he was in the mid-1950s, when he was arrested and put on trial for publishing Allen Ginsberg's Howl and Other Poems. Back then, after U.S. authorities seized copies of the book and claimed Ferlinghetti was promoting obscene language, he countered that the real obscenity was the sickening culture of violence and mass media that Howl and Other Poems spotlighted with a literary flourish. "The great obscene wastes of Howl," Ferlinghetti wrote in 1957 at the height of his landmark San Francisco trial, "are the sad wastes of the mechanized world, lost among atom bombs and insane nationalisms, billboards and TV antennae."

Words are Ferlinghetti's forte. His own books of poetry, like Coney Island of the Mind, and his North Beach bookstore, City Lights, and its published works, are rightfully celebrated around the world. But how many people know Ferlinghetti is also an accomplished painter? Before he published a single poem, painting and drawing were Ferlinghetti's first artistic endeavors. A new exhibit, "Lawrence Ferlinghetti: Future Woman," gathers 35 of Ferlinghetti's female portraits (some done in the past few months) which show that Ferlinghetti is still pushing the boundaries of his art forms. Ferlinghetti drew one piece, Woman #2 (Shiva), on a canvas window shade that he spattered with blue and red acrylic paint. In Home Was Never Like This, a hand reaches between the bare legs of

"My works on paper are better than my oil paintings," Ferlinghetti tells SF Weekly. "You're freer, and the line is more dynamic."

Ferlinghetti first began painting in the late 1940s while getting his doctorate from the Sorbonne in Paris, and has since drawn more than 5,000 images, many of them kept by major institutions like the Smithsonian American Art Museum. But he has found the greatest acceptance of his artistic interests overseas. In 2010, Italy's Museo di Roma hosted a 60-year retrospective of Ferlinghetti's art — an honor that still gives him chills because of the wide reception he received in that country's national media.

"In Europe, it's quite often the case that the artist is both a poet and a painter. That's the way it was with the French Surrealists, for instance," Ferlinghetti says. "In this country, they want to put you in a pigeonhole, where you've got to be one or the other. That's too bad. I get this all the time: 'Oh, I didn't know he painted!' It's like I'm stuck with this label as a poet who also paints."



Ferlinghetti celebrates the female form with Future Woman #4.

Not surprisingly, Ferlinghetti often blurs the lines between his politics and his art. In 1987, Ferlinghetti completed The Unfinished Flag of the United States, a depiction of American interventionism in which the U.S. flag's red stripes bleed across a map of the world. In his painting Don't Give Me, Ferlinghetti's take on U.S. immigration policy, the Statue of Liberty is looking at a saying, "Don't Give Me Your Huddled Masses," that contradicts the statue's iconic ethos.

With "Future Woman," his seventh solo exhibition with George Krevsky Gallery, Ferlinghetti leaves his politics at the door. And the paintings' women leave their clothing on the floor, revealing breasts and pubic hair and curvature that Ferlinghetti says is a celebration of the female form. Picasso, de Kooning, and other 20th-century painters distorted women's bodies into monstrous blobs, organs, and caricatures, says Ferlinghetti, who views his "Future Woman" retrospective as a chance to reelevate women to a "pedestal of pure beauty and mystery." The exhibit's oldest work, Battle With the Image from 1956, has an almost primordial feel, with a shadowy figure raising her arms in what could be surrender or triumph. One of the exhibit's newest works, Future Woman #4 (2013), depicts a faceless dark-haired woman who could be a descendant of the woman from 1956.

"My view of women, personally, has changed, but my depictions haven't changed," says Ferlinghetti, whose longtime studio is in Hunters Point. "Most of these works were done from a live model. The title of the show, "Future Woman," is a bit misleading because the future woman is actually the same as the present woman, as far as the form goes. As for my views, from my generation, we were still in the old world. Our generation experienced women coming down from their pedestal. My view of women changed because we became more realistic. The latest paintings on canvas in the exhibit show a more realistic woman. With Future Woman #4, the body isn't romanticized."

As he gets closer to his 100th birthday, Ferlinghetti, who's written more than 30 books of poetry and prose, has had to think more about what he'll leave to his heirs. All the visual art that he's produced over the

years has increased in value (Battle with the Image is selling for \$75,000), and in researching inheritance taxes, Ferlinghetti has discovered another U.S. policy that agitates him.

"The way the U.S. government treats artists, it's really shameful," he says. "I've just been reading the income-tax law and the estate tax on when you die: it's disgusting the

way the artist is treated. If you read the law on the subject, and say you're 20 years old and contemplating being an artist, you'd say, 'Good God -I'm not going into that field!' It's so bad that an advanced lawyer who specializes in art estates advised the heirs of a famous painter in San Francisco to, as soon as he died, burn everything, to avoid this huge estate tax that would have wiped them out. It's disgusting what the government does."

If Ferlinghetti had to choose between poetry and painting, Ferlinghetti says he would choose painting. "It's more to enjoy, especially with a computer. I have struggles with a computer," he says. "I wish I had my old typewriter back. It's more work than painting. Painting is more like play than work."

Lawrence Ferlinghetti: Future Woman

Through June 23 at George Krevsky Gallery, 77 Geary, S.F. Free; 397-9748 or georgekrevskygallery.com.

▼ KNOW YOUR STREET ART

Thanks Dad

Mission and Duboce

ainted on the outside wall of an apartment building in the Mission overlooking Brick and Mortar Music Hall, the four men - naked and overweight, armpits and fatfolds on full display — are dancing the dance of their lives. Pedestrians who look up from the intersection of Mission and Duboce can see the undulating men, but it's the drivers traveling atop the nearby Central Freeway who may have the best view of Jeffrey Cheung's street art. The massive portrait is Cheung's contribution to "queer street art" — a genre that Cheung says is too rare, even in San Francisco. "I didn't see a lot of queer street art, and I wanted to see more of it," says Cheung. "I wanted to make something that people like something positive." Cheung, who cites Keith Haring as an influence, has painted other men onto outside walls, but those were illegal — and Cheung got lucky when the landlord of the building at 1716 Mission St. saw his work in a gallery and invited Cheung to paint the wall that faces the freeway. Cheung titled the work Thanks Dad as an homage to his father, who held the ladder for his son to paint the men at the wall's highest point. After Thanks Dad went up in March, Cheung worried that a graffiti artist who also wanted to paint the wall — and was also apparently talking to the landlord would tag it out of jealousy. "The landlord was going to have some graffiti artist paint the wall, and I think the



Jeffrey Cheung's "queer street art."

graffiti artist was really mad that I was painting it instead," says Cheung, 23, who studied art at UC Santa Cruz and now lives in Oakland. "I thought it would be bombed or tagged over, but it's still there. It's exciting that people see it every day." J.C.







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2013 Specialized Crosstrail Sport	\$650	\$599 ⁹⁵
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2013 Specialized Rockhopper 29'er	\$800	\$729 ⁹⁵

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Much Ado About Nothing

Rated PG-13. Opens Friday at the Century Centre 9.

ro Tip: To get national theatrical distribution for a blackand-white home movie of your friends doing Shakespeare, try directing the third-highest grossing film of all time. It worked for Joss Whedon, whose Much Ado About Nothing would probably have gone straight to VOD had he not made The Avengers. But whatever brings The Bard to the masses is a good thing, and even if it's not likely to find much traction beyond Whedon's fan base (a highly vocal group that didn't quite have the numbers to make Whedon's Serenity a hit, or to keep Firefly or Dollhouse on the air), they won't be disappointed with Angel alums Amy Acker and Alexis Denisof as Shakespeare's sparring Beatrice and Benedick. To everyone else, Acker and Denisof will come across as very pretty but kind of bland - and, truth be told, they lack both the energy and the nerd-orgasm potential of Doctor Who's David Tennant and Catherine Tate in the 2011 West End

The Kings of Summer: Little bit Spielberg, little bit Anderson.



production, which is viewable online if you know where to look. But Much Ado About Nothing can't help but be fun (though some modern viewers will probably take umbrage at its Renaissance-era slut-shaming), and it's refreshing to see a Whedon project in which the characters don't all spout Whedon-style zingers. Shakespeare's zingers are still the best. SHERILYN CONNELLY

The Kings of Summer

Rated R. Opens Friday at Sundance Kabuki Cinemas.

he exact origins of this feature debut from writer Chris Galletta and director Jordan Vogt-Roberts are unclear, but it sure captures the vibe of a promising short film awkwardly stretched to feature length through too many Sundance workshops and zealously musicsupervised slo-mo scenes of teen boys at play in nature. At stake, at least theoretically, is the coming-of-age that occurs when three sweet young dudes attractive protagonist Joe (Nick Robinson), best friend Patrick (Gabriel Basso), and weirdo hanger-on Biaggio (Moises Arias) - run away from their glibly oppressive suburban Midwestern homes to build a makeshift house in the woods. A peculiar synthesis of Spielbergian sincerity and Andersonian indie quirk ensues, not wrongly presuming the common ground of adolescent-male wistfulness. The central trio is easy to like, but they could use a shapelier story or a more original narrative vision. As Kelly, the girl who inevitably comes between Patrick and Joe, Erin Moriarty has too little to do and only marginally more than Alison Brie in a placeholder part as Joe's sister. Presided over from its periphery by Megan Mullally as Patrick's overprotective-oddball mom and Nick

Much Ado About Josh Whedon's Shakespearean Passion Project.

Offerman as Joe's melancholy-widow dad. Galletta and Vogt-Roberts' bid for arthouse approval sometimes feels suffocatingly calculated – just so familiar that it might make you want to flee and take your chances in the unspoiled forest instead. **JONATHAN KIEFER**

The East

Rated PG-13. Opens Friday at the Embarcadero. n the opening scenes of Zal Batmanglij's The East, it's established that protagonist Sarah Moss (coscreenwriter Brit Marling) is a devout Christian. But as the story unfolds and intelligence operative Sarah infiltrates a freegan eco-terrorist collective called The East, her Christianity is never again referenced, nor does it have any apparent influence on her thoughts or actions. It's symptomatic of the movie as a whole, which is pretty to look at and moves along at a brisk pace, but full of loose ends and plot-driven improbabilities (why the telltale compass hanging from the mirror? So the story can move forward). The East's tension evaporates by the second half, particularly as the secrecy and cult-like rituals of the collective that are so painstakingly set up in the first half are largely disregarded to make room for an obligatory love story between Sarah and group leader Benji (Alexander Skarsgård). The East does raise some valid moral questions about corporate responsibility (as well as the virtues of eating other people's discarded apples) but the script feels a couple drafts shy of being ready to shoot. And for all its railing about justice, the fact that Ellen Page is relegated to a supporting role may be the greatest injustice of all. s.c.

Watch Your Vegetables

SF DocFest appreciates tradition.

ith the "documentary" form having broadened its horizons so much in recent years, getting a little wild and crazy in the process, it can be reassuring that some films in the 12th annual SF DocFest still do proudly retain that old familiar "eat your vegetables" vibe. Or they take it even further, as in the case of Andrew Hasse's affable and enthusiastic Edible City, which has more of a "reclaim abandoned urban space, use it to grow your own vegetables, share them with your community, and then eat them" vibe.

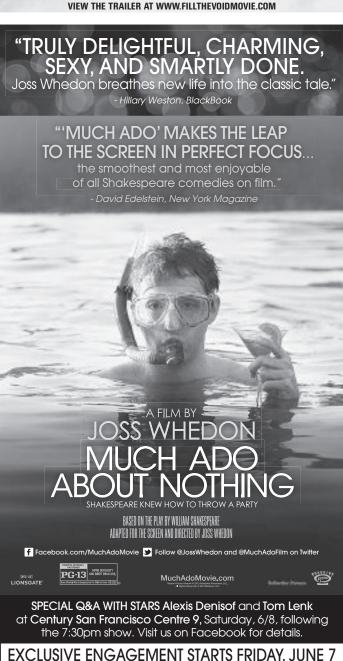
Connectedness is definitely a theme of this year's fest. While Sausalito director David Ainley's The Last Ocean explores the troubled relationship between commercial fishing and the marine ecosystem, Oakland director Emily Wick's Life with Alex explores the scientific and emotional value of interspecies communication. Meanwhile San Francisco director Simone Jude's Public Sex, Private Lives reveals that even porn performers struggle with worklife balance. And, from Stanford professor Jan Krawitz's Perfect Strangers, a chronicle of kidney donation, to Running for Jim, a portrait of a local crosscountry coach with Lou Gehrig's disease, it becomes clear that DocFest doesn't skimp on stories of bravery in the face of affliction. Which, perversely, reminds us: Dying is easy; comedy is hard. Marriage is harder. Kate Schermerhorn's After Happily Ever After: A Film About Marriage is recommended.

By virtue of trueness to life, docs often deliver useful insights on how to cope with troubled times. The context of Petey & Ginger is America's financial meltdown, and its subtitle is "A Testament to the Awesomeness of Mankind," so it's easy to suspect some bitter irony is intended there. Note, however, that the film is further described as "a celebration of survival, music, companionship and chaos," and, importantly, that the Petey in question is San Francisco's own Petey Dammit of beloved art-rock outfit Thee Oh Sees. "I have a hard time going outside and talking to people," he says. "I don't have a hard time playing, though." Go ahead and say amen to this testament.

The 12th annual DocFest runs June 6-23 at multiple venues. Tickets are \$11 and up. Call 552-5580 or visit sfindie.com. J.K.

ART





FILM CAPSULES

▼ Film

For our complete film listings, visit SFWeekly.com/movies. * = We recommend it.

OPENING

Shadow Dancer Even if 30 Rock's Dennis Duffy is right and technology is cyclical, the beeper is probably never going to make a comeback, though it's one of many obsolete technologies that play a key role in the James Marsh political thriller Shadow Dancer. Set in a perpetually overcast 1993 Belfast, the film follows single mother Collette (Andrea Riseborough, refreshingly earthy after her sterile turn in Oblivion) as she's reluctantly recruited by MI5 spook Mac (Clive Owen) to spy on her hardliner IRA brothers. There are twists and

intrigue a-plenty, particularly as the IRA honchos begin to realize there's a tout (v'know — a mole, a squealer, a snitch) in their midst, and Mac realizes his boss (Gillian Anderson) might not have Collette's best interests at heart. Though never in a winking or mocking way, Shadow Dancer is a kind of retro-techno thriller, showcasing everything that was state-of-the-art in the early 1990s, including a Windows 3.1, and the opening credits are typed in a halting manner with a cursor as a Morse Code signal pings away in the background. The theme of surveillance and technology makes the presence of The Wire's Aidan Gillen all the more appropriate, and Game of Thrones fans should appreciate hearing Littlefinger let his native accent fly. (S.C.) Wish You Were Here If Kieran Darcy-Smith's Wish

You Were Here is any indication, the fear of the darkskinned Other taking advantage of innocent white tourists overseas is not a strictly American anxiety. Told partially in flashback, not-quite-happily married Australian couple Alice (Felicity Price) and Dave (Joel Edgerton) join Alice's sister Teresa (Steph McKinney) on an impromptu Cambodian pleasure trip with the mysterious Jeremy (Antony Starr),

who disappears after a night of Ecstasy-fueled pandemonium. Their lives continue to fall apart back home in what feels like a season's worth of soap opera plots crammed into a lean 89 minutes. though the fact that Price and Edgerton live in a beautiful house overlooking the ocean can't help but distract from the gnashing of their teeth, making it a little harder to care about their troubles. For all the melodrama it piles on, Wish You Were Here might have been better served by going the L'avventura or Picnic at Hanging Rock route and leaving the mystery of Starr's disappearance unsolved, but instead opts for the What Really Happened reveal at the end, at which point the film descends into utter xenophobic hysteria. But it's not unentertaining xenophobic hysteria, and the film's overall message seems to be this: If you must take Ecstasy, don't do it in Cambodia. Noted and logged! (S.C.)

ONGOING

Before Midnight Ever notice how when someone mentions that they've been married for a decade or more, the general reaction is not, "Well, of course you're still together, because marriage is a sacred covenant with God which no man may put asunder." but usually more along the lines of, "Wow How have you made it work for so long?" Richard Linklater's Before Midnight addresses the latter issue, as Jesse (Ethan Hawke) and Celine (Julie Delpy) from 1995's Before Sunrise and 2004's Before Sunse are now married with children of their own. As their summer vacation in Greece draws to a close, they try to figure out what to do with the rest of their lives - and whether or not they actually want to spend those lives with each other. Familiarity with the first two films is not required, and this third may actually be a purer emotional experience for those who don't already have an emotional connection to the characters; average grown-ups will likely have their own deep well of disappointment and heartbreak to draw from. But Before Midnight is not all wrist-slashing domestic turmoil — it's also very funny, shot on beautiful Greek locations with delicious-looking food (mmm, dolma!), and Delpy's "American Bimbo" impression is almost worth the price of admission. (S.C.)

Frances Ha A visually pithy victory of bittersweetness over cynicism, and therefore arguably a career highlight for director Noah Baumbach, Frances Ha shows with keen humor and without self-pity what it's like to be alive and in one's twenties and in New York and aware of one's potential slipping away. Greta Gerwig stars as an aspiring dancer whose signature move might be flightiness and whose slow drift toward true adulthood might also be away from her best friend, played by Mickey Sumner. Shot in sumptuous black and white, this subtly romanticized slice of life amounts to a minimal assembly of improbably resonant non-events, almost unthinkable as a film without the specific virtue of Gerwig's daffy, guileless poise. Otherwise Baumbach's style could be called homage-happy; it's classic Truffaut meets vintage Woody Allen meets Girls, with one direct lift — an exhilarating, freewheeling David Bowie-scored street dance — from Leos Carax's Mauvais Sang, What's key is how playfully at ease Baumbach seems among his many tasteful influences, including obvious muse Gerwig, his co-writer and vital spark, Inspired by her spontaneity, and scripted to cultivate it, the movie does turn up some occasional stilted line readings here and there, but periodic awkwardness also is shrewdly elemental to its charm. "I'm so embarrassed," Frances confides at one point. "I'm not a real person yet." True: She's a movie character, of just the sort we hope to encounter more often in life. (J.K.)

Rebels With a Cause Nancy Kelly and Kenji Yamamoto's documentary is hereby recommended for anyone who's ever crossed the Golden Gate Bridge and nearly wept with gratitude for whatever blessed benediction has allowed all those gorgeous rolling acres to remain unmolested. As Rebels With a Cause reveals, your fealty is due not to gods but to a sort of ragtag special-ops team of conservation activists, whose gutsy decades-spanning crusade has kept the Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area perpetually safe from urban development. True, it's perpetual also in the sense that nobody will ever again be able to afford a house in Marin County anyway, but this seems a reasonable price for maintaining the



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good health of what one participant describes as "the lungs of the Bay Area." With the occasional gently scolding don't-take-this-stuff-for-granted music cue, and some eloquently earthy narration by Frances McDormand, the film has the air of a museum exhibit informational video: it's a tad too easy to tune out, but a comfort nonetheless. Kelly and Yamamoto responsibly carve their way through dense thickets of local and national political history. revealing how far we've come since the time when some people thought conservationists a scourge worse than communists. Eventually some brave citizens told the planned "Marincello" headlands development to go take a hike, and now, breathing ever deeply, we all can do likewise. (J.K.)

Sightseers From Shaun of the Dead onwards, the production team of Nira Park and Edgar Wright hasn't made a bum film yet. While their movies are not always hits — the financial failure of Wright's own Scott Pilgrim vs. the World is the great cinematic injustice of 2010, bar none, and Joe Cornish's Attack the Block deserves more attention than it got their artistic streak continues with director Ben Wheatley's pitch-black little comedy Sightseers. The seers of sights are Chris (Steve Oram) and Tina (Alice Lowe), a socially awkward couple whose RV trip across England keeps getting ruined by the hell that is other people. Those people tend to wind up dead, first at the hands of accomplished killer Chris, and eventually by budding murderer Tina. Sightseers is the most modest and streamlined of the Park & Wright films, and the first to be largely free of special effects or conventional action, but with plenty of gore and a dark tone. It's not for

all tastes, certainly, and it is deeply British — an early kill set to a recitation of William Blake's "Jerusalem" doesn't have quite the same resonance for American audiences, particularly vokels who refer to "caravans" as "RVs" — but Sightseers is a worthv addition to the Park & Wright canon. (S.C.) Venus and Serena Early in the documentary Venus

and Serena, we're informed that filmmakers Maiken Baird and Michelle Major followed the tennisfamous Williams sisters through their rocky 2011 season. Just as much time is devoted to their lives and careers up to then, however, and the finished film focuses more on the perpetually second-billed younger sister Serena. This is partially due to Venus's health problems (though Serena herself struggles with a pulmonary embolism, way too much footage of which is shown), but probably also because Serena's story is more interesting, being the younger sister who strove for greatness just because it's what her older sister was doing. They were pushed to that greatness by their father, Richard, the kind of guy who gives all his sons names that also start with the letter "R" - seriously, who does that? — and while his daughters don't lack for quirks, they come across as fairly stable for being so pressured so young. The film's talking heads are surprisingly diverse, including Bill Clinton. Chris Rock, Anna Wintour, New Journalism figurehead Gav Talese, and John McEnroe, who serves as a Crankiness Guru to Serena. Helpfully, Venus and Serena provides captions so you'll know which of the sisters is speaking at any given time — though if it's karaoke, it must be Serena. (S.C.)

We Steal Secrets: The Story of WikiLeaks Alex Gibney's new documentary charges keenly into the dense meta-fog of an information-age war between transparency and opacity. There's never a dull moment on these front lines, even when it seems like all Gibney has to cut to is one more secondhand shot of Julian Assange gazing wordlessly into a laptop. Which is to say the secret-sharing crusader remains as mercurial as ever, leaving us to piece together his journey from scrawny teen hacker to rumpled political rock star to cause-martyr and scandal-plagued, vaguely Hughes-ian recluse. Also hovering around these proceedings is Assange's most important source, U.S. Army private (and recently de-appointed SF Pride grand marshal) Bradley Manning, whose tortured-soul testimony piles up in heaps of confessional e-mail. With other articulate talking heads including journalists, former insiders, and government mucketymucks. Gibney gives a fine backgrounder on how WikiLeaks' business of big reveals traded up from the Icelandic financial system to the American wars. in Afghanistan and Iraq. He also bears in mind the serious ethical question of what happens when blowing a whistle might put lives at risk. (Some of what happens, inevitably, is a media circus.) We Steal Secrets gathers power from circling back to a WikiLeaks coup, the harrowing 2007 footage of a wanton American helicopter assault on a group of noncombatant Iraqis, including two journalists. It seems grimly telling that this story's most crucial moment may have occurred when someone mistook a camera for a weapon of war. (J.K.)

FILM SHOWTIMES

Arthouse listings compiled by John Graham. To submit a listing (at least 10 days before issue date), e-mail film@sfweeklv.com.

Artists' Television Access. Bollywood Divas: Queering Desi Cinema: Desi cinema goes drag in two films — Anuj Vaidya's Bad Girl with a Heart of Gold and Kareem Khubchandani's Lessons in Drag presented by 3rd i. Sat., June 8, 7 p.m. \$10-\$12. thirdi.org, 992 Valencia, San Francisco, 824-3890. www.atasite.org.

Bottle Cap. Dinner and a Movie: Weekly screenings in the Bottle Cap dining room. Sundays, 7 p.m. 1707 Powell, San Francisco, 529-2237, www. bottlecapsf.com.

The Castro Theatre. Elmer Gantry and Atlantic City: Burt Lancaster double feature, Wed., June 5. 2:30, 4:55, 7 & 9:30 p.m. Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia and Two-Lane Blacktop: Warren Oates double feature. Thu., June 6, 7 & 9:05 p.m. Midnites for Maniacs: In honor of Johnny Depp's 50th (?!) birthday, this triple bill serves up three Burton-free Depp entries from the 1990s: Benny & Joon, What's Eating Gilbert Grape, and John Waters' Cry-Baby. Fri., June 7, 7:30, 9:30 & 11:59 p.m. \$13. midnitesformaniacs.com. Romeo + Juliet and Strictly Ballroom: Baz Luhrmann directorial double feature. Sat., June 8, 1, 2:45, 5:05, 7 & 9:20 p.m. Journey to Italy and Stromboli. Double feature of recently restored classics by Italian neorealist Roberto Rossellini, both starring Ingrid Berman. Sun., June 9, 1, 3:05, 4:50, 7 & 8:40 p.m. 429 Castro, San Francisco, 621-6120, www.castrotheatre.com.

Clay Theatre, What Maisie Knew: A modernized interpretation of the 19th century novel by Henry James. Daily. Fill the Void: Themes of love, death, and familial obligation wind their way through this dramatic Israeli debut by Rama Burshtein. June 7. The Room: Tommy Wiseau's cinematic bomb is every bit as bad as it's cracked up to be. You'll crack up as well at this riotous midnight screening with lots of Rocky Horror-style audience participation. Second Saturday of every month, midnight. 2261 Fillmore St, San Francisco, 267-4893, www. landmarktheatres.com/Market/SanFrancisco/ SanFrancisco Frameset.htm.

Dark Room Theater. Bad Movie Night: The Haunting: Hosts Jim Fourniadis, Jason Wiener, and Tristan Buckner watch this 1999 "thriller" that's laughout-loud terrible. Sun., June 9, 8 p.m. \$6.99. 2263 Mission, San Francisco, 401-7987, www. darkroomsf.com.

Embarcadero Center Cinema. Frances Ha: A new indie comedy from the director of The Sauid and the Whale, Daily, Kon-Tiki: Thor Heverdahl's dangerous 1947 journey across the Pacific Ocean in a small wooden raft is given the adventure movie treatment by Norwegian filmmakers Joachim Rønning and Espen Sandberg, Daily, Refore Midnight: What was once just the blush of young romance has matured into thoughtful middle-age wisdom in Before Midnight, the third installment of Richard Linklater's series starring Julie Delpy and Ethan Hawke. Daily. The East: When a corporate espionage agent (Brit Marling) goes deep undercover inside an anarchist collective, she gradually begins to question her motivations and her life in this new thriller by writer/director Zal Batmanglij. Starting June 7. Daily. 1 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, 267-4893, www.landmarktheatres.com/market/ SanFrancisco/EmbarcaderoCenterCinema.htm.

Multiple Bay Area Locations. 12th Annual San Francisco Documentary Film Festival: SF Indie's DocFest returns for another year of non-fiction documentaries, cinéma vérité, and short films on topics such as Bettie Page, Burning Man, gueer hiphop, gentrification, public schools, Pussy Riot, the Pirate Bay, disabled athletes, Antarctica, and even Thee Oh Sees' Petev Dammit, Venues include the Roxie Theater (June 6-20), Balboa Theatre (June 7-9), Aguarius Theatre in Palo Alto (June 9-11),

New Parkway Theater in Oakland (June 14-16), and Rio Theatre in Santa Cruz (June 21-23). See the festival website for full schedule lineups, film synopses, program tickets, and more, June 6-23, \$11. sfindie.com. San Francisco. N/A.

New People. Third Annual San Francisco Green Film Festival: San Francisco's biggest enviro-centric cinema event returns for its third year of films with an ecological focus. This year's program features documentaries about Marin County coastal conservation, an anti-fracking concert in New York, underwater landscape artist Cristina Iglesias, the Haiti earthquake, Canadian Eskimos, disappearing bees, dancing garbagemen, and much more. Through June 5. \$12 per screening. sfgreenfilmfest.org. 1746 Post (at Webster), San Francisco, 525-8630, www.newpeopleworld.com.

Oddball Films. Sid Davis: Nightmare Maker: Learn all about the dangers of talking to strangers, drinking, doing drugs, and other subjects at this retrospective of "educational" teenage scare films by the auteur of no-budget vintage cinema. Thu., June 6, 8 p.m. \$10, Submerged Cinema: A screening of miscellaneous underwater film clips ranging from Jacques Cousteau to The Creature from the Black Lagoon, Fri., June 7, 8 p.m. \$10, 275 Capp, San Francisco, 558-8112, www. oddballfilms.com.

Opera Plaza Cinemas. Sightseers: A vacation trip through the British Isles goes horribly, hilariously wrong in this black comedy from across the pond. Through June 6. Stories We Tell: Written and directed by Sarah Polley. Daily. Scatter My Ashes at Bergdorf's: Documentary about the luxurious NYC department store with numerous celebrity appearances. Daily. Venus and Serena: Documentary about the dominant sibling tennis champs. Daily. The Iceman: Michael Shannon plays a contract killer in this true crime drama. Daily. Wish You Were Here: The mysterious disappearance of a friend on holiday causes a rift between close friends in this psychological mystery from Australia. Starting June 7. Daily. 601 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, 777-3456, www.landmarktheatres.com/market/ SanFrancisco/OperaPlazaCinema.htm.

Roxie Theater. The Trash Treasures of Jon Moritsugu: Five nights of underground cult films by the lo-fi punk director, culminating in the Wednesday, June 5. theatrical premiere of Pig Death Machine. his first new movie since 2002. Through June 5. Neighborhood Night #5: Not Just a Day Job: An evening of short films directed by people who also happen to work at local movie theaters. including Joshua Lehman, Jared Raun, Annalise Velazquez, Mackenzie Mathis, and more, Wed., June 5, 7 p.m. 3117 16th St., San Francisco, 863-1087. www.roxie.com.

SFSU Campus/Fine Arts Building. Third Annual Legacy Film Festival on Aging: A showcase of 25 films focusing on the "challenges and triumphs" of growing older. June 7-9. \$9-\$12 per screening (or \$40 for festival pass), 1600 Holloway, Sar Francisco, 338-6535, www.sfsu.edu.

Sundance Kabuki Cinemas. National Theatre Live: This House: Live cinema broadcast of James Graham's British political drama being performed onstage in London. Sat., June 8, 12:30 p.m. ntlive.nationaltheatre.org.uk. 1881 Post, San Francisco, 346-3243, www.sundancecinemas.com/kabuki.html.

Temescal Arts Center, Shapeshifters Cinema: Experimental imagery by local filmmaker Joshua Kit Clayton, Sun., June 9, 8 p.m. free, shapeshifterscinema.com, 511 48th St., Oakland, 510-923-1074. www.temescalartscenter.org.

Top of the Mark. Third Annual Summer Movie Nights Series: Meet Me in St. Louis: Complimentary movie screening of Judy Garland's 1944 retro musical romp, plus sponsored wine tastings. Tue., June 11, 7:30 p.m. free. One Nob Hill, 999 California, San Francisco, 616-6916, www.intercontinentalmarkhopkins.com.

The Vortex Room. The Vortex Phenomena: Eyes Behind the Stars and The Kirlian Witness: Double feature of 1970s B-movies involving UFOs, telepathic plants, and murder most foul, Thu., June 6, 8 p.m. \$10. 1082 Howard, San Francisco, N/A, https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Vortex-Room/217115454982128.

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. New Filipino Cinema 2013: Festival of fresh films from the Philippines, including many U.S. premiere screenings. June 5-9, \$8-\$10, 701 Mission, San Francisco, 978-2787 www.vbca.org.



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EAT

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Big Trouble in Little Spain

At Coqueta, culinary theatrics and celebrity aren't a substitute for good food.

BY ANNA ROTH

ichael Chiarello stands in the middle of his new Embarcadero restaurant, Coqueta, pouring liquid nitrogen into the eager hands of a group of well-dressed women at a round corner table. He's as handsome in person as he is on the Food Network, tanned and trim with closely cropped salt-and-pepper hair, and is certainly acting the part of the showman celebrity chef as he makes his flashy version of frozen sangria.

I'm sitting two feet away at a table behind him, but my view of the extravagant display is limited to Chiarello's (admittedly well-toned) backside. All through the meal, the chef returns to the same two or three tables several times – drinking punch with them out of a traditional Spanish pitcher, bringing them little treats from the kitchen, generally having what appears to be a great time — and ignores everyone else. If I'd come to bask in the glow of Chiarello's celebrity, I would have been left out in the cold. And his food here isn't much of a consolation prize.

Chiarello has built his brand as the laidback Napa guy making simple Cal-Italian cuisine. His Food Network show, Easy Entertaining with Michael Chiarello, is shot at a winery and focuses on recipes like chicken with roasted lemon and rosemary sauce. Chiarello's wine country persona extends to NapaStyle, a tony kitchen and lifestyle store he owns which sells things like \$400 chandeliers made from wine glasses and barrel staves. He's the proprietor of Italian restaurant Bottega in Yountville, but Coqueta is the chef's first restaurant in San Francisco and his first foray into Spanish cuisine ("coqueta" means "flirt" in Spanish, because he's flirting with the cuisine).

I went in ready to be seduced. I've always liked Michael Chiarello. He's part of the old guard of Food Network stars with legit restaurant experience, and I was excited to experience his take on Spanish tapas and sherry drinks, which had been the recipient of breathless media hype for months. But the af-



fair fizzled soon into my first visit as the food revealed itself to be a lot of show without much substance.

The sprawling menu divides courses into hot tapas, cold tapas, entrées, salads, pinxos, meats, and cheeses - an overwhelming variety at first glance, and seemingly too many to do well at once. Coqueta's version of patatas bravas, the classic Spanish potato tapas, came out the first time looking like wan tater tots; on another occasion they were at least crisped on the outside, but far too oily on the inside. Wood-grilled octopus was perfectly cooked pliant and not rubbery, not an easy thing to achieve in a wood-fired oven - but topped with so much Spanish paprika it tasted gritty

Grilled octopus is one of many hot tapas at Michael Chiarello's new Coqueta.

and acrid. I also crunched down on a mouthful of grit in the grilled razor clams with ramps. And duck-and-pork meatballs were so salty they were inedible.

Cold tapas fared a little better. The salad, Ensalada Rosorte, wasn't so much a salad as it was a cold soup: A base of fresh, verdant English pea puree in a highball glass, topped with some poached vegetables and a slivered egg, with a crispy ham "crouton" sticking out the top. It was conceptually confusing but nice to eat; more than I can say for the white gazpa-



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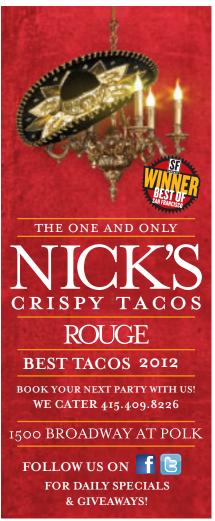
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cho, made with Marcona almonds, which had a texture and astringent flavor that brought paint primer to mind.

Not all of the food was a disappointment. The paella main course, \$40 for enough to serve two or three people, was fine: There wasn't a crust on the bottom as a proper paella should have, but the large Gulf prawns were succulent and meaty, the rice just the right texture, and the saffron bright enough to be noticeable without overpowering the palate. And there was a lovely and decadent openfaced sandwich called "mar y montana" (sea and mountain), with lardo and jambon iberico melted over a buttery slice of sea urchin, all on a buttery, crispy brioche bun.

It's also a pleasant room to spend a few hours in, thanks to interior design work by Eileen Gordon Chiarello, Michael's wife. It's a gorgeous space with wood floors, a marble bar overlooking the buzzing open kitchen, metal chairs covered in leather, and exposed wood beams and Venetian plaster walls. The heavy, Spanish flatware and metal water cups are conversation pieces in themselves. There are views of the bay, too: Chairs and benches were raised in the restaurant so diners can look out of the large windows.

One of the restaurant's best elements is the adjacent bar, a glass-walled jewel box of a room with an ambitious cocktail program led by bar manager Joe Cleveland, who formerly worked at Jose Andres' restaurants in D.C. It focuses heavily on sherries and "gintonics" light, refreshing beverages popular in Spain but here showed some of the same lack of editing as the kitchen. The Spanish Golden Ale, a gintonic made with Old Tom gin, Fever Tree tonic, amontillado sherry, chocolate bitters, lemon, and gold was one of the best things I had at Coqueta, well-balanced and layered and complex. Not so much for the Tariff, made with gin infused with jambon iberico. Not even acorn and apricot tonic, orange, and cava could tame the taste of the pork. It was like drinking a cold glass of prosciutto.

The restaurant's biggest flaw came into focus at dessert. I ordered "pop rocksicles," a push-pop of rock-hard frozen sangria topped with house-made pop rocks; fun to say, less fun to eat. The loud crunching of the pop rocks drew an embarrassing amount of attention from other tables, and the melting sangria left my hand a sticky mess. It was at least better than the smoked crème brulee, whose heavy liquid smoke flavor lingered long after I took a bite. I wanted flan. I wanted simple pleasure. Flash and style might be enough to fuel a first attraction, but there needs to be more behind the initial excitement or a flirtation will inevitably fizzle.

Email: Anna.Roth@SFWeekly.com

Coqueta

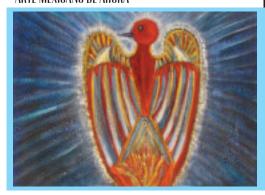
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FRESH EATS

Pete Kan

▼ Eat

Sharper Image

BY PETE KANE

ike other businesses that germinated in the incubator that is 331 Cortland in Bernal Heights, Bernal Cutlery has made the leap towards permanent digs after its three-year residency. Taking up in the former Pot + Pantry — which was home to 18 Reasons before that — owners Josh Donald and Kelly Kozak, along with additional guru Taka Tozawa, will be making fine adjustments to all your beveled edges. Just don't bring in your shovels for sharpening. "They're a pain in the butt," Donald says.

The new space also means an expanded inventory of handmade knives for sale as well as greater seating capacity for their Japanese whetstone sharpening classes — which are so much sexier on a transcript than Accounting 101. (For those not in the know, whetstones use water to eliminate the heating you get with more mechanical processes, such as a minute under the belt sander, which can reduce edge quality and shorten the blade's lifespan.)

It can sound very intimidating, or geared towards advanced-level samurai, but kitchen knives constitute more than 90 percent of what Bernal Cutlery sharpens and fine tunes. Of that figure, it's half professional chefs and half home cooks.

Buy knives and learn how to use them at this new Mission shop.

Classes concentrate on knife skills and sharpening, with an added emphasis on parent-kid classes. Kozak regards the general public's fear of knives as slightly "excessive," noting that as a mother, she finds her kids' involvement in food preparation helpful for them, and will give them implements such as cookie cutters so that they "learn to handle metal."

Kozak and Donald have their own favorite knives. She gravitates towards the Sabatier butcher knife for its clean motion, more like a scimitar than a saw. For him, it's the light-yet-strong Ashi Hamono series, excellent for vegetable work. Check it all out, as well as cool oddities like handmade corkscrews or a 19th-century carving set, at the business's new home, which opened on June 1.

Bernal Cutlery, 593 Guerrero, 902-6531.

▼ FRESH EATS

Getting Back in Touch With Vesper Lynd

BY LOU BUSTAMANTE

ew bars have endured as much turmoil in three years as the Burritt Room. Despite a parade of talented bartenders and bar managers moving through, in the time since it opened there

RECENT OPENINGS

A weekly listing of new dining spots around town. To recommend a place, e-mail fresheats@sfweekly.com.

Kitchen Mojo: Replacing the shuttered Pizza Nostra in Potrero Hill, owner Winona Matsuda has opened this amalgam of cuisines with a little help from the owners of HRD Coffee Shop. Along with burgers, salads, and fries, there are unique items like popcorn shrimp kimchi po' boys and Asian burritos. 300 De Haro, 552-6656.

Novela: Literature is the theme at this clubby bar at Mission and Third. Drinks are named after characters from novels, like Leopold Bloom (hibiscus gin, pineapple syrup, mint) and Atticus Finch (bourbon. Earl Grev honey, balsamic bitters). But the star of the menu is the six flavors of punch on tap. 862 Mission St. NovelaBarSF.com.

Osso Steakhouse: This art deco steakhouse on Nob Hill is the latest from restaurant veterans Jerry and Jennifer Dal Bozzo (The Franciscan, The Stinking Rose, The Old Clam House). Expect bone-in, dry-aged steaks, near-Wharf pricing on warm Dungeness crab, and cocktails like basil-flavored martinis. 1177 California, 771-6776. ossosteakhouse.com

Paprika: This new sausage-and-beer-fest in the Mission is keeping it simple with offerings ranging from brats and kielbasa to small-town, craft brews from just outside of Prague. There are full boots of Weihenstephaner Hefe Weissbier as well. Don't skimp on the sauerkraut! 3324 24th St., 283-7941.









have been many cocktail menu changes, a change in ownership when the bar was sold to restaurateur Charlie Palmer, a subsequent grand reopening, and the addition of a restaurant component, the Burritt Tavern. Throughout it all, the one thing you could always count on was a good drink.

Thanks to a new menu by lead bartender Josh Trabulsi, who transitioned into the bar when the space got a revamp last year, the Burritt Room's cocktails have become equal to some of the best in the Bay Area. This is due in part to Trabulsi's skills, but more importantly, the drinks just feel right for the Burritt, a small but bustling place that feels like a nightlife hideout even with a crowd with as many locals as tourists.

Trabulsi's take on the classic James Bond cocktail, the Vesper Lynd (\$13, Leopold's Navy Strength Gin, cucumber-infused Dolin Blanc Vermouth), is named after the seductive double agent who stole James Bond's heart in Casino Royale. And it immediately stole ours. The two-ingredient cocktail seems simple, but a sip reveals the complexity of its personality, with lavender and juniper contrasting with fragrant and vegetal cucumber notes, all entwined with sweet herbal vermouth. Like the character in the movie and books, the Vesper Lynd is a classy and spirited companion, especially to chef Luke Knox's Lobster Risotto (\$22, spring peas, pea tendrils, mint) - the green and floral cocktail components bloom with each bite of the fresh spring vegetables and creamy rice.

There is an appropriate level of elegance in all the cocktails Trabulsi serves, like the Berlinetta (\$12, bourbon, Cynar, Carpano Antica, Price Blood Orange Bitters), a drink that twists bourbon into a beautifully spiced, pre-dinner sipper cooled by a single giant ice cube. It's as much fun to look at as it is to drink, and made our scrappy alt-weekly journalist go from thrifty to Prada just by holding the glass.

After getting his start barbacking in Boston in the '90s, Trabulsi moved to San Diego and transitioned into wine, working and learning his way into a sommelier position at the Hotel Coronado. Just like last call, the bar beckoned him again, and he got behind the bar working at Starwood and Preferred Hotels properties. This led him to San Francisco when the Crescent shifted to Mystic Hotel, home of the Burritt Room, and now to lead the bartending team.

While Trabulsi may not be a native to the Bay Area, he certainly tries to honor the drinking culture and glean knowledge from the drinking history here. The Knickerbocker à La Monsieur (\$13, aged rhum agricole, orange curacao, raspberry, lemon) is a drink that famed bartender Jerry Thomas first created in 1862 at the Occidental Hotel at Bush and Montgomery, not too far from the Burritt Room. Using the original recipe, he adds a slight variation with fresh raspberries to work with grassy funk of the cane spirit.

150 years from now, *Casino Royale* may be about as exciting to future generations as silent movies are to us now, but hopefully the Vesper Lynd will be just as vibrant.

Burritt Room, 417 Stockton, 400-0555.

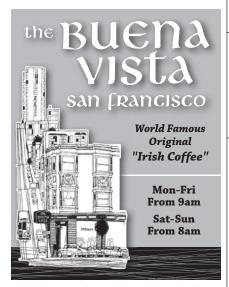












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▼ Bouncer

Shedding a Second Skin

BY KATY ST. CLAIR

he cicadas in the Midwest are getting ready to hatch. There are two things I miss about growing up in Illinois: thunderstorms and cicadas. They whir at dusk, and until I grew up and moved away I thought that was just the sound the sun made when it went down for the night. They also shed their skin, for lack of a better word, leaving otherworldly suits of bug armor behind, stuck to trees like terra-cotta insect warriors.

"Ugh," was my friend Sharon's response, offering that she liked fireflies instead. "We actually have fireflies out here," she told me. "They just don't light up."

Yeah, so what's the point?

The North American cicada "broods" are about to end their 17-year cycle of incubation and hatching. The grubs, called "nymphs" (how cute!) have been living burrowed in the ground this whole time, and soon they will crawl up and out of the earth like bug-eyed vampires, and if they are not immediately ingested by a birdie, they attach to a tree and molt. The whirring sound they make is to woo hotties, but they also have an "oh shit!" sound they make

when they are in danger.

cause deafness.

Apparently their "singing"

can be so loud that if it's done

next to the human eardrum it can

In S.F., if we want a "whir" we can listen to the BART trains. I like the energy around the Powell Street BART station at dusk; the guy painted silver like a robot has packed up his stuff and can usually be seen heading uphill towards, I assume, home. Lines of tourists are weary but ready to wait another 40 minutes to board a cable car. The breakdancers split their daily takes.

The bar situation over there is crap though. Thank god I love hotel bars, because Level III above the JW Marriott is right there to compete with the awful Union Square Sports Bar and the Cable Car City Pub. It's on the third level (get it?). It made me think of cicadas because of the way it describes itself on its website, like it patterns itself after the movement of the sun: "Light and airy and more subdued in the morning and afternoon... In the evening... the lights go down, the music turns up-tempo... the lounge is magically transformed into a vibrant and energetic gathering place." The bar molts, people. It fairly whirs as evening approaches.

Bars are also where I go to start a day over. I attach to a stool and slowly peel away my top layer.

"Fire" is the theme the designers had in mind, according to the website, and once I actually set foot in it I guess I could see what

they were talking about, if by "fire" they meant '90s earth tones and muted mustard yellows and lime greens. It also wouldn't be a hotel bar without the world's busiest carpet, and this one looked like rows of orange fjords running wild with radioactive leaves.

A woman was beaming at me as I approached the bar, and it wasn't an employee. It was the kind of smile that makes you look behind you to see if the person is not in fact looking at someone else. "Hiya," I of course said to her, not wanting to disappoint.

"Hi!" she shot back, and I do mean shot. Girlfriend was giddy.

"Yer livin' free and easy," I said, as I situated myself. She didn't quite get what I meant, but no one ever does. The bartender came over and he was a nice fella who took my order immediately, made it, then took my money. So far, so good.

"I know you don't know me but I just had to tell someone!" the girl continued. She had brown hair and ... well damn, she was pretty nondescript, save for an aura of Middle Earth; you know the type, folks who were in drama club in high school.

'I just did comedy open mic at Brainwash!" I immediately made a note to myself to hit that bad boy: The Bouncer material would be plentiful! Strangely, she

was the second person I had run into who had their lives transformed

> once overheard a girl on BART going on and on about how she had just gotten "signed," or something, from her comedy bit there.

by appearing at Brainwash. I

"I feel incredible!" this woman continued. I smiled and nodded, genuinely happy for her because anyone with the balls to do stand-up is a hero of mine. She walked me through

her whole process, how she practiced, how nervous she was, how the crowd seemed to love her. I tried to figure out what kind of shtick she had; she wasn't overweight, short, a minority, or filthy-mouthed. In all honesty she seemed ridiculously naïve. (Seriously, I have to go to these Brainwash shows.)

She finished her revelry and I did my best to be as excited for her as a close relative would be, since I felt that was what she needed. She took a deep breath and stretched, filled to the brim I suppose with victory. Things were going to change for her now. Her life was going to be taking an entirely new path. Whir, baby, whir.

She then made the cursory inquiry into what I did for a living, but I didn't want to talk about myself and also doubted that she really cared. Her brain was going a mile a minute. She would be the next female Louie. There was something soothing about her patter; she droned on and on, and I slowly relaxed more and more. "So," I said, "tell me a joke."

Whir, baby. Whir.

500 Post, 929-2087. Level Three SF. com.

E-mail Katy.StClair@SFWeekly.com Like "Katy St. Clair's Bouncer column" on Facebook and follow her on Twitter @BouncerSF



Ten Years O' Death

How the Pine Box Boys survive being S.F.'s bloodiest bluegrass outfit.

BY SAM PRESTIANNI

ight acoustic music with ties to bluegrass, country, old-time, and folk is more popular than ever in indie circles. But the flipside of this trend is far more compelling. In San Francisco, the leaders of the darker, rowdier, underground acoustic movement are the Pine Box Boys, a motley combo of players whose twisted vision mashes dirty American roots, B-movie horror, and a deep respect for all things Slaver. Independent from day one — with no interest in toning down its R-rated sound for family access the Bay Area murdergrass quartet has managed to defy the odds, plowing its own DIY path for a full decade.

Band leader, guitarist, and singer Lester Raww attributes the group's longevity to kinship: "I actually like these guys," he says of his bandmates. For the other boys, it's about having fun with Lester's tunes pitch-black, fetishistic tales of Americana gone awry, equal parts rock and bluegrass with a molten core of avant-garde freakishness. (In a previous incarnation as the Zag Men, three-quarters of PBB performed soundtracks to silent horror films.)

In "Stab," a hoppy singalong, a father schools his son on the fine art of razorwielding a la Sweeney Todd. In "The Gravedigger," originally a haunting ballad that's evolved at live shows into a dusty bootstomper, a fella who feels like a friend promises to bury you in the Arkansas clay ("I've dug 99 holes...") for an even 100 count. In "Pretty Little Girl" - a theatrical Victorian-Gypsy rollick with accordion, fiddle, and Tuvan throat-singing – a psycho pedophile doses children at a tea party.

...IT'S A

GREAT WAY

NEGATIVE

ENERGY."

TO "CHANNEL

Drummer Steven "Your Uncle" Dodds says he's a PBB lifer because "Lester's writing keeps it interesting." He's talking about the stylistic range of the band's sound, which shovels bluegrass and country into a punk meat grinder, barbecues the shredded flesh in a thrash-metal hole in

the ground, and amply seasons it with art-rock dramatics and spit-from-the-mouth moonshine. Dodds says he gets into "the severe rhythms," arguing that he and the other bandmates — banjo player Alex "Possum" Carvidi and upright bassist Colonel Timothy Leather -are simply "the gasoline on Lester's songs." Carvidi deflects the charge, saying, "I'm feeding off of what I'm being fed." Raww calls all of this "the Nuremberg defense" (just following orders, ma'am).

Indeed, during our interview over beers at Doc's Clock in the Mission, it takes the boys a while to admit the obvious. Colonel Tim Leather comes around first, saying he's stuck with the band over the years, in part,



because it's a great way to "channel negative energy." After which Dodds fesses, "If anyone in this band would commit [the atrocities fictionalized in the lyrics] ... it would be me." So there's the key to their solidarity: these guvs are one with the darkness, and they laugh in the face of the Reaper and his pestilential antics. It's gallows humor, to be sure, and a stiff middle finger to those who'd prefer we go gently into that good night.

> "Civilization's falling apart," says Raww. "I'm writing about the world, from headlines on murder and mayhem, with a little laugh. We're all really fucked up."

> Such sentiment resonates with PBB's fanbase. It may not be legion by Mumford and Sons standards, but the group's cult

following spans continents and an age range from 10 to 80. In the Bay Area, the band built up its audience in the early days with a series of quarterly gigs at Cafe Du Nord. A half-dozen self-produced albums, regular tours of Europe and the U.S., and a number of summer festivals later, the band will celebrate its 10th anniversary this weekend at the Independent.

While their hardcore approach to bluegrass will likely keep them on the fringes of the mainstream roots-music scene, the Pine Box Boys continue to draw new fans around the country via creative partnerships. Locally, teaming up with bluegrass promoter Shelby Ash (notably, at the S.F. Bluegrass &

An oldtime band that loves Slayer.

Old-Time Festival) has helped lure openminded folkies into the fold, and collaborating with burlesque dancers (Salacious Underground at Slim's, Hubba Hubba Revue at the Uptown) has raised awareness among the Bay's bawdier hipsters. Sometimes the latter approach can backfire, though. At a gig in Portland opening for the Suicide Girls, the band was heckled to get off the stage. Boobs and tattoos versus banjos and blood? You can see the problem.

Of course, a huge part of staying together as a band is bonding like family in the face of adversity - and laughing at the absurdity of what happens along the way. Like performing in Belgium under fluorescent lights for old ladies watching a volleyball tournament. Or playing an Athens bar twice the size of Slim's, and after the show starts, two of the club's three patrons leave. Or having to flex gangsta-style with a venue owner who balks at coughing up the band's guarantee. Power through that, and you get to groove with a couple thousand best friends at the renowned Folkwoods Festival in the Netherlands. But, as Raww puts it, such is the lifestyle of "rock musicians masquerading as bluegrass."

The Pine Box Boys With the Good Luck Thrift Store Outfit

9 p.m. Saturday, June 8, at the Independent. \$13-\$15; www.theindependentsf.com



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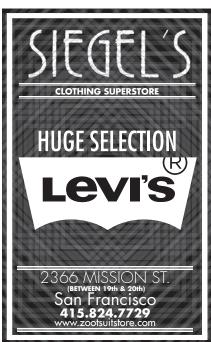
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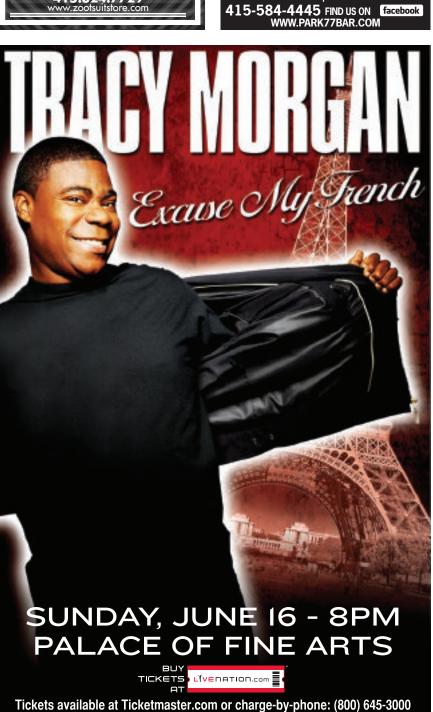
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Sizzle & Fizzle

HIGHS AND LOWS FROM THE LAST WEEK IN S.F. MUSIC

SIZZLE

- What was the best part of **Björk's** final Richmond show? Maybe it was her huge cotton-candy wig, or the muscular renditions of songs from her latest album, or the surprise Mike Patton appearance. But more likely it was her crazy lighting-bolt synthesizer, a noise machine seemingly built by Nikola Tesla.
- The lineup for this year's **Treasure Island Music Festival** is out, and
 headliners include Atoms for Peace,
 Beck, Animal Collective, Major Lazer,
 and James Blake. It looks like a pretty



Destroid at the Warfield good group of bands to spend a gorgeous weekend with.

■ Destroid is a "live band" that dresses in elaborate robot outfits and plays bodynumbing dub-

step for bead-and-bikini-wearing raver kids. The trio played its first-ever show at the Warfield, and just looking at the pictures made our ears hurt.

FIZZLE

- Finance site NerdWallet did a serious analysis of late-summer music festivals and found that Outside Lands is a good deal but only if you love **Paul Mc-Cartney**. (Which, who doesn't?) The site says Austin City Limits is the best deal for your festival dollar, period.
- Can everyone in **Stone Temple Pilots** just shut up? The band members decided to get Linkin Park's Chester Bennington to be their new singer, which was mildly amusing. Then Scott Weiland had a hissy fit online and acted all brokenhearted. While the lawsuits fly, we're wondering why these people still get attention.
- Hate never wins, guys, especially when it's targeted at the ever-resilient and fascinating Insane Clown Posse, who played Oakland last week. "It's nuts, but to me, that's dope," Shaggy 2 Dope told us of the group's naysayers. "Hate on, hater. It just makes us bigger players."

For full versions of the above stories and much more about S.F. music, check out All Shook Down, our music blog, at www.sfweekly.com/shookdown.







▼ Lost in the Night

Isle of the Old-**School Raver**

The spirit of the '90s survives in an afternoon party on Treasure Island.

BY DEREK OPPERMAN

an Francisco in the early '90s carries a mythological weight when it comes to electronic dance music, and for good reason. Those were the days when raving was young, the music was fresh, and the city was cheap. Today, the legacy of that time lives on in some of the city's best known party crews. One of them is Pacific Sound, an entity that got its start in '94 with "Sunset," a free-spirited afternoon rave in the Berkeley Marina. Long gone from that location, it still keeps the old vibe alive by throwing events in unusual, appealing locations. Its latest, dubbed "Sunset Island," marks the party's fifth annual appearance at the spectacular-view-endowed Great Lawn on Treasure Island.

Sunset throws an old-school party for old-school people; all the music on offer this



weekend is exclusively composed of artists from the American Midwest. There are three headliners, with Detroit duo Octave One (aka brothers Lenny and Lawrence Burden) taking the prime slot. Skirting the line between classic Motor City techno and jazzy futuristic house, their many tracks together, such as "Black Water" and "I Believe." are widely considered modern dancefloor classics. They are not DJs; their live sets are improvisatory jams played from a huge array of synths and gadgets.

From there, the afternoon promises to explore more purist strains of four-to-thefloor club music. Repping Chicago is Tevo Howard, the veteran house spinner whose soulful yet sparse take on the style recalls '80s Windy City greats like Mr. Fingers and Virgo 4. As a selector he's a revered figure: though he only began producing in 2007, he's been mixing records since the late-'80s, which - if you know about Chicago's backbiting DJ scene - means he's got some serious turntable chops.

Finally, rounding things out is Minneapolis techno icon DVS1 (aka Zak

Khutoretsky). Though his hometown might not be as well known when it comes to electronic dance music, his stripped-down, raw techno - as heard on releases for Ben Klock's Klockworks label and Derrick May's Transmat — has made him a regular fixture at Berlin's exclusive Berghain nightclub.

As usual, the proceedings will be centered around the DJ sets of longtime local heroes Galen, Solar, and J-Bird. Yet like all Sunset events, music won't be the only thing on offer. The crew has arranged for a selection of food trucks that includes Señor Sisig, Mr. Nice, Eat Fuki, and Magic Curry Kart. Add it all up and you have a party worthy of the Bay Area's storied rave heritage (not to mention the tricky journey out to Treasure Island).

Sunset Island featuring Octave One, Tevo Howard, DVS1, Galen, J-Bird, and Solar

12 p.m. Sunday, June 9, at Treasure Island. \$15-\$20; sunsetmusicelectric.com

▼ OTHER PARTY OPTIONS THIS WEEK

The Field at the Independent 9 p.m. Thursday, June 6. \$16.50; theindependentsf.com

Virtual reality by way of sonic manipulation that's a good way of thinking about the warmly spun acoustic worlds of Axel Willner (aka The Field). Like an electronic My Bloody Valentine, his albums tour through smeared emotions and synthetic soundscapes. Live, he expands on that metaphor by performing as a trio with bass guitar and drum accompaniment.

Madlib at 1015 Folsom 10 p.m. Friday, June 7. \$20; 1015.com

We're a far cry from hip-hop's sample-filled glory days, but Los Angeles producer Madlib (aka Otis Jackson Jr.) has kept the torch alive after all these years. Like those who came before him, he's a sample-obsessed loop-digger, whose recorded works and DJ sets pull from an encyclopedic knowledge of all forms of funky music, past and present.

Mark Farina and Roman Flügel at Public Works 9:30 p.m. Friday, June 7. \$13-\$20; publicsf.com

Two headliners are better than one when it comes to Public Works' latest nightlife offering. This Friday, the bi-level nightclub offers a sonic bridge between the sympathetic house scenes of San Francisco and Frankfurt. All night, local selector Mark Farina and German import Roman Flügel will trade turns slinging tasteful four-tothe-floor jams in the upstairs loft and the downstairs main room.

The Chase One Year Anniversary at the Lab 9 p.m. Saturday, June 8. \$5-\$8; thelab.org

For the past year. The Chase has offered a visually rich alternative to conventional San Francisco nightlife. Taking cues from the contemporary art world, it offers a playground of floor-to-ceiling digital media projections soundtracked by the quirky cool selections of rising outsider house producers like Bobby Browser, Panavision, and Austin Cesear (all of whom are on deck to guest its first anniversary this Saturday).



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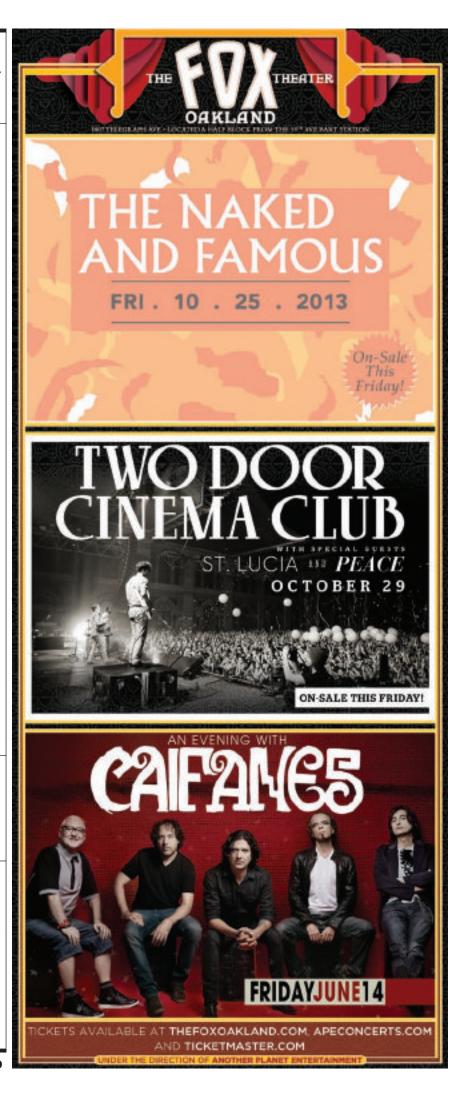








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▼ On the Record

Real Stories of the Supernatural

Sonny and the Sunsets Antenna to the Afterworld June 11 on Polyvinyl

Better than: Triple-breasted Mars broads and lamely realist sad-sacks.

heir love nearly ended in a pool of green blood. The sad-eyed cyborg lady of the spacelands was married, it turned out. As our narrator, the Earth-man suitor, tried to steal her away, her jealous cyborg husband shot her. She bled slime. She somehow survived. But the newfound romance wasn't to be. "We really tried, you know? We tried to make a life," Sonny Smith sings on "Green Blood," the last and weirdest track on his band's latest, weirdest, and yet remarkably affecting new album, Antenna to the Afterworld. "But we're so different, such different types."

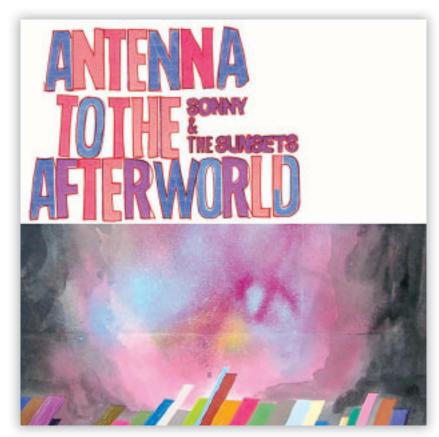
This isn't quite science-fiction. Through his music, writing, and art — and projects, like last year's live spoken-word performance Sees All Knows All, that combine media — San Francisco's Smith has become a master of the out-there metaphor, of using bluntly unreal situations and characters to evoke very real feelings. His latest album with long-running band the Sunsets deals in fortune-tellers, aliens, and a monster of a woman who lures him to a bed of nails. (There's also some cutting realism, as in

"Girl on the Street.") But instead of employing science-fictional elements to defy human gravity, Smith uses them to point at inescapable qualities of the Earthling condition: Loneliness, failing at love, the shock of a friend's sudden death. In "Green Blood," it isn't the jealous cyborg husband who kills the romance — it's their differences as people (or, okay, person and android). When Smith tells the story in his charcoal baritone, his crush sounds as quotidian as blue California sky on a May afternoon: "She was amazing, so intelligent, so beautiful, fun — all those things."

There is always a price of entry to Smith's work. On his previous album with the Sunsets, Longtime Companion, that was country music: Beneath the pedal-steel guitars and tear-in-beer melodies was a piercingly sad, and sometimes funny, break-up album. Smith and the Sunsets have returned to their vintage rock 'n' roll sound on Antenna, but the hurdle here is unrepentant weirdness. The songs are worth suspending disbelief for. On "Palmreader," Smith hints at a lifetime's worth of trouble in a few casual lines: "My life line is fucked up, too/It's covered in scabs and glue/Seems like it's split, split into two/One goes there, one stays here... with you." In three breezy minutes of investigation into the paranormal, Smith gets a moving point across: If even a professional psychic can't make sense of your raw flesh, you're holding some real problems indeed. IAN S. PORT

Sonny and the Sunsets

perform Tuesday, June 11, at SF Eagle. 7 p.m., www.sf-eagle.com.





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MUSIC LISTINGS

▼ Music

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CONCERTS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

The Boxer Rebellion: W/ Fossil Collective, 9 p.m., \$31.50. The Fillmore, 1805 Geary, S.F., 346-6000.

Crystal Fighters: W/ Alpine, 8 p.m., \$16. Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell, S.F., 885-0750.

FRI., JUNE 7

Cellar Doors: W/ Sister Chief, Posole, Kevin Eagle Oliver, DJ Joel Gion, 8 p.m., \$10. Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell, S.F., 885-0750.
Scott Weiland: Performing songs from the Stone Temple Pilots albums Core and Purple, 9 p.m., \$52. The Fillmore, 1805 Geary, S.F. 346-6000.

SAT., JUNE 8

Bay Area Rainbow Symphony: 8 p.m., \$15-\$35. San Francisco Conservatory of Music, 50 Oak, S.F., 864-7326.

Cultivate: Food, Ideas, and Music Festival: The Chipotle restaurant chain presents this free afternoon nosh-fest featuring music by Mayer Hawthorne, The Walkmen, Walk the Moon, LP, Matt Costa, and Chris Golub. The festival's culinary offerings include food, wine, and beer tastings as well as live presentations by food celebs like Richard Blais, Michael Chiarello, Amanda Freitag, Sarah & Evan Rich, and others., 11 a.m.-7 p.m., free. Golden Gate Park, Speedway Meadow, John F. Kennedy, S.F.

Five Iron Frenzy: W/ Dan P & The Bricks, 8 p.m., \$20-\$40. The Regency Ballroom, 1290 Sutter, S.F., 673-5716.

The Maine: W/ A Rocket to the Moon, This Century, Brighten, 7 p.m., \$21. Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell, S.F., 885-0750.

SUN., JUNE 9

Alkaline Trio: W/Bayside, Off With Their Heads, 7:30 p.m., \$22-\$26. The Regency Ballroom, 1290 Sutter, S.F., 673-5716.

The Beach Boys: 7:30 p.m., \$35-\$95. Mountain Winery, 14831 Pierce, Saratoga, 408-741-2822.

Haight-Ashbury Street Fair: 11 a.m., free. Haight-Ashbury, Haight, S.F.
KMEL Summer Jam: W/ Kendrick Lamar, 2 Chainz, J. Cole, Wale,
RaVaughn, Trinidad James, more, 7 p.m., \$23.75-\$119 advance.
Oracle Arena, 7000 Coliseum, Oakland, 510-569-2121.

Tim McGraw: W/ Brantley Gilbert, Love and Theft, 7 p.m., \$40.75-\$84.70. Shoreline Amphitheatre, 1 Amphitheatre, Mountain View, 650-967-3000.

Villa Sinfonia: 2 p.m., free. Union Square Park, 333 Post, S.F., 831-2700.

Rufus Wainwright: 8 p.m., \$20-\$88. Davies Symphony Hall, 201

Van Ness, S.F., 864-6000.

MON., JUNE 10

The Legend of Zelda: Symphony of the Goddesses: Live or chestral performance of musical themes from the Nintendo videogame series, 8 p.m., \$45-\$125. Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness, S.F. 864-6000.

TUE., JUNE 11

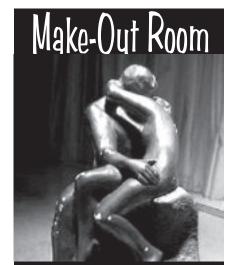
Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo: W/ Cheap Trick, 7 p.m., \$49.50-\$125. Mountain Winery, 14831 Pierce, Saratoga, 408-741-2822.

CLUBS

WEDNESDAY 5

ROCK

Cafe Du Nord: 2170 Market, S.F., 861-5016. Lenka, Satellite, 9:30 p.m., \$13-\$15.



WEDNESDAY 6/05 AT 8PM, FREE!
FRIGO-BAR! INT'L DANCE PARTY
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FUNK/SOUL/HIP-HOP/LATIN/AFROBEAT

SATURDAY 6/08 AT 6:30PM, \$5-10 WRITERS WITH DRINKS JANE CIABATTARI, ANNALEE NEWITZ HIYA SWANHUYSER AND JADE CHO!

FOLLOWING AT 10PM, \$5
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W/ ROGER MAS Y EL KOOL KYLE
CUMBIA/DANCEHALL/SALSA/HIP-HOP

MONDAY 6/10 AT 9PM, NO COVER!
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DJ MODERN GEOFF
60S, 70S, 80S SOUL SOUL!

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HEAR THIS



WITH VICTIMS FAMILY AND BRUBAKER. 9 P.M. FRIDAY, JUNE 7, AT THEE PARKSIDE. \$10; WWW.THEEPARKSIDE.COM

Along with mainstay bassist Les Claypool and drummer Jay Lane, guitarist Todd Huth was a formative member of Bay Area favorites Primus. Besides writing the guitar melodies for the group's earliest (and best) material, Huth wrote dissonant, jagged lines that've been ably followed by his replacement Larry LaLonde for more than two decades. Though he has worked sporadically with Claypool since leaving Primus in the late 1980s, Huth recently revived his own noisy power trio Porch. With the aid of Today Is the Day bassist Christopher Frey and Brookhaven drummer Michael Jacobs, Porch pounds out a moody, malevolent fury whose latest release, Givin Up, echoes the metallic skronk of Unsane and Shellac. The dreams of the '90s will be alive at Thee Parkside Friday for this show with slide-rule punk heroes Victims Family, and Brubaker (a supergroup featuring members of VF, long defunct S.F. favorites Walrus, and Sacramento heavyweights Kai Kln). DAVE PEHLING

Elbo Room: 647 Valencia, S.F., 552-7788. The Tunnel, Ocean View, 9 p.m., \$6.

Hemlock Tavern: 1131 Polk, S.F., 923-0923. Girls in Suede, Turtle Rising, 8:30 p.m., \$5.

DANCE

The Cafe: 2369 Market, S.F., 621-4434. "Sticky Wednesdays," w/ DJ Mark Andrus, 8 p.m., free.

Cat Club: 1190 Folsom, S.F., 703-8964. "Bondage A Go Go," w/ DJs Damon, Tomas Diablo, & guests, 9:30 p.m., \$5-\$10.

Club X: 715 Harrison, S.F., 339-8686. "Electro Pop Rocks," 18+ dance party with Far Too Loud, Fonik, Harris Pilton, Krishna, SwitchBlade, Cuervo, Mr. Brandon, Jazz-E, Shane Fontaine, Corrine, 9 p.m., \$10-\$20. F8: 1192 Folsom St., S.F., 857-1192. "Housepitality," w/ Justin Long,

Tyrel Williams, Bai-ee, Joel Conway, 9 p.m., \$5-\$10. The Knockout: 3223 Mission, S.F., 550-6994. "Werk: That New

House Shit." w/ Brogan Bentley, Natural Curves, Bobby Peru, Yr Skull, Drovers '88, 9:30 p.m., \$5,

Monarch: 1016th St., S.F., 284-9774. "Soul Phunktion," w/resident DJs Kimmy Le Funk, Primo, and M3, 9 p.m.

Q Bar: 456 Castro, S.F., 864-2877. "Booty Call," w/ Juanita More Joshua J, guests, 9 p.m., \$3.

HIP-HOP

Brick & Mortar Music Hall: 1710 Mission, S.F., 800-8782. Hopie, Rey Resurreccion, Nate the Great, DJs Cutso & Ry Toast, 9 p.m., \$5-\$8.

ACOUSTIC

Cafe Divine: 1600 Stockton, S.F., 986-3414. Craig Ventresco & Meredith Axelrod, 7 p.m., free.

Plough & Stars: 116 Clement, S.F., 751-1122. Jeanie & Chuck's Bluegrass Country Jam. First Wednesday of every month, 9 p.m., free.

Amnesia: 853 Valencia, S.F., 970-0012. Gaucho, Eric Garland's Jazz Session, Dink Dink Dink, 7 p.m., free.











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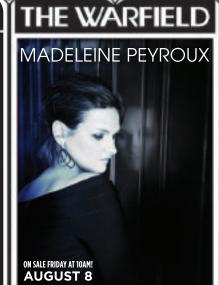
EISLEY HRVRD I THE MIGHTY JULY 7

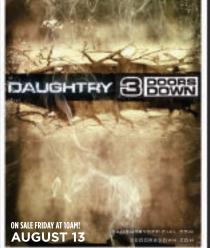
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Jazz Bistro At Les Joulins: 44 Ellis, S.F., 397-5397. Charles Unger Experience, 7:30 p.m., free.

Le Colonial: 20 Cosmo, S.F., 931-3600. The Cosmo Alleycats featuring Ms. Emily Wade Adams, 7 p.m., free.

Savanna Jazz Club: 2937 Mission, S.F., 285-3369. "Cat's Corner," 9 p.m., \$10.

Top of the Mark: One Nob Hill, 999 California, S.F., 616-6916. Ricardo Scales, Wednesdays, 6:30-11:30 p.m., \$5.

Yoshi's San Francisco: 1330 Fillmore, S.F., 655-5600. Joey DeFrancesco Trio. 8 p.m., \$25.

Zingari: 501 Post. S.F., 885-8850. Hubert Emerson. 7:30 p.m., free.

INTERNATIONAL

Boom Boom Room: 1601 Fillmore, S.F., 673-8000. Cha-Ching, First Wednesday of every month, 9 p.m., 9pm, 673-8000.

Cafe Cocomo: 650 Indiana, S.F., 824-6910. "Bachatalicious," w/ DJs Good Sho & Rodney, 7 p.m., \$5-\$10.

John Colins: 138 Minna, S.F., 512-7493. "Coco do Brasil," w/ DJs Miles Green & Jerry Ross, 6 p.m., free.

BLUES

Biscuits and Blues: 401 Mason, S.F., 292-2583. Twice as Good, 8 & 10 p.m., \$15.

The Royal Cuckoo: 3202 Mission, S.F., 550-8667. Big Bones & Chris Siebert, 7:30 p.m., free.

SOUL

The Cellar: 685 Sutter, S.F., 441-5678. "Color Me Badd," w/ DJ Matt Haze, Wednesdays, 5-9 p.m.

Lexington Club: 3464 19th St., S.F., 863-2052. "Secret Lovers," w/ DJs Ponyboy, Lil MC, Katie Duck, and Durt, First Wednesday of every month, 9 p.m., free.

THURSDAY 6

ROCK

Amnesia: 853 Valencia, S.F., 970-0012. Waterstrider, Foxtails Brigade, Jessica Fichot, 9 p.m., \$7-\$10.

S.F. Eagle: 398 12th St., S.F., 626-0880. Thursday Nite Live: Slough Feg, Owl, Wounded Giant, 9 p.m., \$10.

Hemlock Tavern: 1131 Polk, S.F., 923-0923. Anhedonist, Necrot, Fabricant, 8 p.m., \$8.

The Knockout: 3223 Mission, S.F., 550-6994, Kromosom, Frenzy. Kontrasekt, Condition, 9:30 p.m., \$8.

Milk Bar: 1840 Haight, S.F., 387-6455. Hoboagogo, The Pops, Spirit on the Water, 8:30 p.m., \$7.

Sub-Mission Art Space (Balazo 18 Gallery): 2183 Mission, S.F., 255-7227, Tigers Jaw, Pianos Become the Teeth, Sainthood Reps. Troubled Coast, 7:30 p.m., \$12.

Thee Parkside: 1600 17th St., S.E., 252-1330. I the Mighty. The Animal in Me, Belle Noire, 9 p.m., \$10.

DANCE

1015 Folsom: 1015 Folsom St., S.F., 431-1200. "Return the Love," benefit for children of domestic violence with Wally Callerio, DJ M3, Deron Delgado, DJ Leonard, 9 p.m., \$10-\$15.

Cat Club: 1190 Folsom, S.F., 703-8964. "All '80s Thursdays," w/ DJs Damon, Steve Washington, Dangerous Dan, & guests, 9 p.m., \$6 (free before 9:30 p.m.).

The Cellar: 685 Sutter, S.F., 441-5678. "XO," w/ DJ Astro & Rose, 10 p.m., \$5.

DNA Lounge: 375 11th St., S.F., 626-1409. "Ritual," w/ Emalkay, MRK1, Jack Sparrow, Nebakaneza, DJ Dials, Johnny5, Wolftr1be, Wetter, 9 p.m., \$15-\$20.

Elbo Room: 647 Valencia, S.F., 552-7788. "Afrolicious," w/ DJs Pleasuremaker, Señor Oz, and live guests, 9:30 p.m., \$5-\$7.

Harlot: 46 Minna, S.F., 777-1077. "Sound," w/ Jeremy Glenn, Vin Sol, Benjamin K. 9:30 p.m., free with RSVP.

The Independent: 628 Divisadero, S.F., 771-1420. The Field, 9

p.m., \$16.50. Madrone Art Bar: 500 Divisadero, S.F., 241-0202. "Night Fever," 9

p.m., \$5 after \$10 p.m.

Monarch: 1016th St., S.F., 284-9774. "Made in Italy S.F.," w/ DJ Ralf, Arturo Garces, Francesco Signorile, 9:30 p.m., \$10-\$15.

Public Works: 161 Erie, S.F., 932-0955. "Icee Hot," w/ Girl Unit, Grown Folk, Shawn Reynaldo, Rollie Fingers (in the main room), 9:30 p.m., \$10; "Future Perfect," w/ Cut Hands, Black Rain, Black Jeans, DJs Santa Muerte & Crackwhore (in the OddJob loft), 10

Raven: 1151 Folsom St., S.F., 431-1151. "1999," w/ VJ Mark Andrus, 8 p.m., free.

Rickshaw Stop: 155 Fell, S.F., 861-2011. "Popscene," w/ The Limousines, 9:30 p.m., \$20.

Ruby Skye: 420 Mason, S.F., 693-0777. "Awakening," w/ Nadia Ali, 9 p.m., \$20-\$25 advance.

Vessel: 85 Campton, S.F., 433-8585, Marija Dunn, Amber Revn. 10 n.m., \$5-\$10.



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SF WEEKLY

WED 6/05 **STAN ERHART**

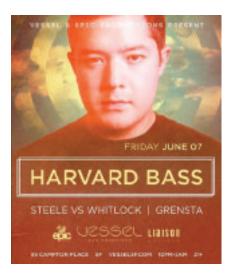
THUR 6/06 CHRIS FORD (4PM - 8PM) **EUGENE HUGGINS (9:30PM - 1:30AM)**

FRI 6/07 LISA KINDRED (4PM - 8PM) MARI MACK AND LIVIN' LIKE KINGS (9:30PM - 1:30AM)

SAT 6/08 DAVE WORKMAN (4PM - 8PM) CURTIS LAWSON (9:30PM - 1:30AM)

SUN 6/09 **BLUES POWER (4PM - 8PM)** THE DOOR SLAMMERS (9:30PM - 1:30AM)

MON 6/10 THE BACHELORS **TUES 6/11** LISA KINDRED







HEAR THIS



Madlib

WITH JAGARI CHANDA, EGON, KUSH ARORA. SANGO, AND MORE. 10 P.M. FRIDAY, JUNE 7, AT 1015 FOLSOM. \$20; WWW.1015.COM.

If eating dinner is anything like making music for Otis Jackson Jr., the man must never leave the goddamn table. The California producer/rapper best known as Madlib has the kind of overflowing discography that indicates a compulsive drive to create. In short and incomplete order, he's done solo releases as Madlib, Quasimoto, Beat Konducta, and Yesterdays New Quintet, plus collaborations with MF DOOM, J Dilla, Talib Kweli, Lootpack, and Ivan Conti, plus remixes for heavyweights like Jay-Z and Beastie Boys. The crate worshiper's freshest accomplishment is Yessir Whatever, a 12-years-in-the-making assembly of work as his high-pitched alter ego Quasimoto. On Friday, Madlib will be in S.F. for "Welcome to Zamrock." a DJ set in which he'll pluck and rewire material from Zambia's 1970s psych- and funk-infused rock scene. If the collector in you needs an extra nudge, he'll also sell his limited-run Rock Konducta 45 at this one-off show, REYAN ALI

Total Control

WITH THEE OH SEES AND FUZZ. 9 P.M. SATURDAY, JUNE 8, AT SF EAGLE. SF-EAGLE.COM.

Foster's sucks, the muffins are overrated, and face it - koalas are duller than they are cute. But on the list of genuinely good things Australia has given the world, leave space for Total Control, an anarchic young punk band deservedly winning acclaim from listeners not based in the Southern Hempishere. The band's 2011 album Henge Beat offers moments of synth-imbued. Suicide-like attack, extended instrumental breaks a la Mission of Burma, and plenty of rabid, deadpan rock 'n' roll. Total Control makes its way to San Francisco this week for a rare show with two hometown favorites: Psych-rock titans Thee Oh Sees and rising sludgemongers Fuzz. Hosted by the newly reopened SF Eagle, expect this one to be sweaty, crowded, and excellent. Aussies everywhere should be proud. IAN S. PORT

HIP-HOP

John Colins: 138 Minna, S.F., 512-7493, "The Premiere," video hip-hop party with VDJ T.D. Camp, First Thursday of every month, 9 p.m., \$5. The Parlor: 2801 Leavenworth, S.F., 775-5110, "Locals Night Out." w/DJ Illy D, 9 p.m., free.

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SF WEEKLY

FILΜ



ACOUSTIC

50 Mason Social House: 50 Mason, S.F., 433-5050. Billy Shaddox & Kara Tauchman, John McGaraghan, Tanks & Bombs, 7 p.m., free.

Atlas Cafe: 3049 20th St., S.F., 648-1047. Gayle Lynn & The Hired Hands. 8 p.m., free.

The Chapel: 777 Valencia St., S.F. Sam Amidon, Alessi's Ark, 9 p.m., \$12. Cigar Bar & Grill: 850 Montgomery, S.F., 398-0850. Tell River, 9 p.m. Plough & Stars: 116 Clement, S.F., 751-1122. The Shannon Céilí Band, First Thursday of every month. 9 p.m., free.

Yerba Buena Gardens: Fourth St. & Mission, S.F., 284-9589. The Family Crest, 12:30 p.m., free.

JAZZ

Boom Boom Room: 1601 Fillmore, S.F., 673-8000. The W-Beez with the Jazz Mafia Horns, 9:30 p.m., \$10 advance.

Le Colonial: 20 Cosmo, S.F., 931-3600. Steve Lucky and the Rhumba Bums. 7:30 p.m.

The Lucky Horseshoe: 453 Cortland, S.F. The TedTones, 9 p.m., free.
Pier 23 Cafe: Pier 23, S.F., 362-5125. Sara & Swingtime, 7 p.m., free.
Top of the Mark: One Nob Hill, 999 California, S.F., 616-6916. Stompy
Jones, 7:30 p.m., \$10.

Yoshi's San Francisco: 1330 Fillmore, S.F., 655-5600. NaJe, in Yoshi's lounge, First Thursday of every month, 6:30 p.m., free; Joey DeFrancesco Trio, 8 p.m., \$25.

Zingari: 501 Post, S.F., 885-8850. Anne O'Brien, First Thursday of every month. 7:30 p.m., free.

INTERNATIONAL

Pachamama Restaurant: 1630 Powell, S.F., 646-0018. "Jueves Flamencos," 8 p.m., free.

Rasselas Ethiopian Cuisine & Jazz Club: 1534 Fillmore, S.F., 346-8696. Latin Breeze, 8 p.m.

BLUES

Biscuits and Blues: 401 Mason, S.F., 292-2583. Rick Estrin & The Nightcats, 8 & 10 p.m., \$20.

Jazz Bistro At Les Joulins: 44 Ellis, S.F., 397-5397. Bohemian Knuckleboogie, 7:30 p.m., free.

EXPERIMENTAL

Jewish Community Center of San Francisco: 3200 California, S.F., 292-1200. Rova Saxophone Quartet with Gino Robair & Ikue Mori, June 6-7. 8 p.m., \$12-\$20.

The Lab: 2948 16th St., S.F., 864-8855. Organ Spectacular, w/ Eli Wallace, KrOB, Tara/Nava, Christina Stanley, Geeta Dayal, 8 p.m., \$5-\$15.

The Luggage Store: 1007 Market, S.F., 255-5971. Joey Molinaro, Charles Céleste Hutchins, Alex Jenkins/Randy Stark Duo, 8 p.m., \$6-\$10.

SOUL

Cafe Du Nord: 2170 Market, S.F., 861-5016. J.C. Brooks & The Uptown Sound, Karina Denike, Antique Naked Soul, 9:30 p.m., \$10-\$12.

FRIDAY 7

ROCK

Bottom of the Hill: 1233 17th St., S.F., 621-4455. Terry Malts, Cold Beat, #1 Smash Hits, 9 p.m., \$10-\$12.

Elbo Room: 647 Valencia, S.F., 552-7788. French Cassettes, Vela Eyes, The Trims, DJ Omar, 9:30 p.m., \$10-\$12.

The Independent: 628 Divisadero, S.F., 771-1420. Trails & Ways; Social Studies; Astronauts, etc., 9 p.m., \$12.

Neck of the Woods: 406 Clement St., S.F., 387-6343. Taxes, Fake Your Own Death, Ownership, BNLX, 8 p.m., \$10.

Rickshaw Stop: 155 Fell, S.F., 861-2011. Parquet Courts, Cocktails, Pang. 9 p.m., \$10-\$12.

Thee Parkside: 1600 17th St., S.F., 252-1330. Victims Family, Porch, Brubaker, 9 p.m., \$10.

DANCE

1015 Folsom: 1015 Folsom St., S.F., 431-1200. "Madlib Medicine Show: The Sound of Zamrock," w/ Madlib (DJ set), Witch's Jagari Chanda, Egon, Kush Arora, Sango + B. Lewis, Devonwho, DJ Platurn, Kevvy Kev, DJ Dials, 10 p.m., \$20 advance.

Brick & Mortar Music Hall: 1710 Mission, S.F., 800-8782. NVO, Gamelan X, Cavalry, DJ Phleck, 9:30 p.m., \$10-\$15.

Cat Club: 1190 Folsom, S.F., 703-8964. "Strangelove: Attack of the Record Labels – Wax Trax! vs. Metropolis," w/ DJs Tomas Diablo, Daniel Skellington, Mitch, and Lexor, 9:30 p.m., \$7 (\$3 before 10 p.m.).

The Chapel: 777 Valencia St., S.F. Kill Paris, Liam Shy, Deep City Culture, DJedi, 8 p.m., \$15-\$20.

DNA Lounge: 375 11th St., S.F., 626-1409. One More Time, Tone Sol, Freefall, MSrc, 9 p.m., \$15; "Twitch," w/ noNViolet, Arisk, plus DJs Justin Anastasi, Omar Perez, Rachel Aiello, and Le Perv, 10 p.m., \$5-\$8.

F8: 1192 Folsom St., S.F., 857-1192. "Re-Set," w/ Kyle Geiger, Steven Campodonico, Rodrigo Quinonez, Superkonduktor, David Siska, 9 p.m., \$10-\$15 (free before 10:30 p.m.).

Madrone Art Bar: 500 Divisadero, S.F., 241-0202. "Dirty Rotten Dance Party," w/ Kap10 Harris, Shane King, guests, First Friday of every month, 9 p.m., \$5.

Mezzanine: 444 Jessie, S.F., 625-8880. "Future Fridays: Launch Party." 9 p.m., \$10.

Mighty: 119 Utah, S.F., 762-0151. "Low End Theory," w/ Kraddy, Dibia\$e, UltraViolet, The Gaslamp Killer, Daddy Kev, D-Styles, Nocando. 10 p.m.. \$15-\$20.

Milk Bar: 1840 Haight, S.F., 387-6455. "Swisshhh!," w/ Benjamin Vallery, Soft & Crispy, Max Gardner, Lance Tyler, 9 p.m., \$5 after 11 p.m. Monarch: 101 6th St., S.F., 284-9774. "Night Moves," w/ Walker & Royce, Bryan Boogie, J-Boogie, Deejay Theory, Papa Lu, 9 p.m., \$10-\$20.

Public Works: 161 Erie, S.F., 932-0955. Mark Farina, Roman Flugel, Dax Lee, 9:30 p.m., \$13-\$20.

Ruby Skye: 420 Mason, S.F., 693-0777. BT, Arnej, DJ Taj, 9 p.m., \$20-\$30.

Slate Bar: 2925 16th St., S.F., 558-8521. "Haçeteria," w/ Leech,
Myles Cooper. CZ. Jason P. Smac. Tristes Tropiques. 10 p.m., \$5-\$7.

Temple: 540 Howard, S.F., 978-9942. "Submerge," w/ Franky Boissy, Pete Carreon, King Size Slap, John Andrew, DJ Swing, Glade Luco, more, 10 p.m.. \$15.

Underground SF: 424 Haight, S.F., 864-7386. "Deep Crates," w/ Spaziale, Les Petites Sauvages, Matt Holland, JD, 9 p.m., \$5.

ACOUSTIC

Bazaar Cafe: 5927 California, S.F., 831-5620. She the Wolf, 7 p.m.
Boom Boom Room: 1601 Fillmore, S.F., 673-8000. The Dustbowl
Revival, The Tropics, 9:30 p.m., \$5 advance.

Maggie McGarry's: 1353 Grant, S.F., 399-9020. Moonshiner, 8 p.m., \$12. Plough & Stars: 116 Clement, S.F., 751-1122. The Littlest Birds, 9 p.m., \$6.

JAZZ

Bird & Beckett: 653 Chenery, S.F., 586-3733. Don Prell's SeaBop Ensemble, First Friday of every month, 5:30 p.m., free.

Feinstein's at the Nikko: 222 Mason St., S.F., 394-1111. Andrea Marcovicci: "Moonlight Cocktail," 8 p.m., \$65-\$95.

Jazz Bistro At Les Joulins: 44 Ellis, S.F., 397-5397. Charles Unger Experience, 7:30 p.m., free.

Pier 23 Cafe: Pier 23, S.F., 362-5125. Soul Sauce, 8 p.m., free.

The Royal Cuckoo: 3202 Mission, S.F., 550-8667. Jules Broussard & Chris Siebert. 7:30 p.m., free.

Top of the Mark: One Nob Hill, 999 California, S.F., 616-6916. Black Market Jazz Orchestra. 9 p.m., \$10.

Zingari: 501 Post, S.F., 885-8850. Joyce Grant, 8 p.m., free.

INTERNATIONAL

Cigar Bar & Grill: 850 Montgomery, S.F., 398-0850. Rumbache, 9 p.m.

The Emerald Tablet: 80 Fresno St., S.F., 500-2323. Musical Art
Quintet, 8 p.m., free.

Pachamama Restaurant: 1630 Powell, S.F., 646-0018. Cuban Night with Fito Reinoso, 7:30 & 9:15 p.m., \$15-\$18.

REGGAE

Showdown: 10 Sixth St., S.F., 255-7920. "How the West Was Won," w/ Nowtime Sound, First Friday of every month, 10 p.m., free.

BLUES

Biscuits and Blues: 401 Mason, S.F., 292-2583. Alvon Johnson, 8 & 10 p.m., \$20.

Lou's Fish Shack: 300 Jefferson St., S.F., 771-5687. Bobbie Webb, 8:30 p.m.

COUNTRY

Cafe Du Nord: 2170 Market, S.F., 861-5016. Honky Tonk Showdown #11.5: The Royal Deuces, Tom Armstrong & The Branded Men, The Muddy Roses, Ramsay Midwood, DJ Blaze Orange, 8 p.m., \$12-\$15.

EXPERIMENTAL

Jewish Community Center of San Francisco: 3200 California, S.F., 292-1200. Rova Saxophone Quartet with Gino Robair & Ikue Mori, June 6-7, 8 p.m., \$12-\$20.

The Lab: 2948 16th St., S.F., 864-8855. Preview Event for Rhys Chatham's *A Secret Rose* (100 Guitars), includes a live performance of the 1977 composition *Guitar Trio* by Rhys Chatham, Bill Orcutt, Ava Mendoza, John Schott, George Chen, John Krausbauer, Lisa Mezzacappa, and Jordan Glenn, 8 p.m., \$7-\$15.

SOUL

Edinburgh Castle: 950 Geary, S.F., 885-4074. "Soul Crush," w/DJ Serious Leisure, 10 p.m., free.

The Knockout: 3223 Mission, S.F., 550-6994. "Oldies Night," w/ DJs Primo, Daniel, Lost Cat, friends, First Friday of every month, 10 p.m., \$5.



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Yoshi's San Francisco: 1330 Fillmore, S.F., 655-5600. Peabo Bryson, 8 & 10 p.m., \$40-\$70.

SATURDAY 8

ROCK

50 Mason Social House: 50 Mason, S.F., 433-5050. North American Scum, Bang On, 10 p.m., \$8.

Amnesia: 853 Valencia, S.F., 970-0012. Waiting Room, Catharsis for Cathedral, Windowpain Industries, 6:30 p.m., \$5.

Bender's: 806 S. Van Ness, S.F., 824-1800. Ancient Mariner, Electric Funeral, 10 p.m., \$5.

Brick & Mortar Music Hall: 1710 Mission, S.F., 800-8782. Anamanaguchi, Crashfaster, Slime Girls, 9 p.m., \$12-\$15.

The Chapel: 777 Valencia St., S.F. Lumerians, Wax Idols, 9 p.m., \$12-\$15.

S.F. Eagle: 398 12th St., S.F., 626-0880. Thee Oh Sees, Total Control, Fuzz, 9 p.m., \$15.

Hemlock Tavern: 1131 Polk, S.F., 923-0923. Wet Illustrated, Violent Change, Pure Bliss, Tony Molina, 9 p.m., \$7.

Neck of the Woods: 406 Clement St., S.F., 387-6343. The Soft Moon, Tremor Low, DJ Omar, 9 p.m., \$12-\$15.

Slim's: 333 11th St., S.F., 255-0333. Free Energy, 9 p.m., \$14.

Thee Parkside: 1600 17th St., S.F., 252-1330. Cumstain, Dark Seas, Burnt Thrones Club, 9 p.m., \$5.

Tupelo: 1337 Green St., S.F., 981-9177. Truckstop Darlin', Brother Dege, 8:30 p.m., free.

DANCE

BeatBox: 31411th St., S.F., 500-2675. "Bearracuda: Underwear Night," w/ DJs Robert Jeffrey & Dabecy, 9 p.m., \$6-\$10.

Cat Club: 1190 Folsom, S.F., 703-8964. "Club Gossip: Pet Shop Boys vs. Culture Club," w/ DJs Damon, Shon, Low-Life, Daniel Skellington, and Sage, 9 p.m., \$5-\$8 (free before 9:30 p.m.).

DNA Lounge: 375 11th St., S.F., 626-1409. "Bootie S.F.," w/ A+D, Keith Kraft, Myster C, Mr. Washington, more, 9 p.m., \$10-\$15.

Elbo Room: 647 Valencia, S.F., 552-7788. "Tormenta Tropical," w/ Uproot Andy, Shawn Reynaldo, Oro11, 10 p.m., \$5-\$10.

The EndUp: 401 Sixth St., S.F., 646-0999. "The Early Show," w/ Alan Fitzpatrick, Ben Seagren, Dean Samaras, Lisa Rose (starts at 3 a.m. Sunday morning); Wicked Sound System DJ Jenö & Garth, Nikola Baytala, Cuervo, 8 p.m.

F8: 1192 Folsom St., S.F., 857-1192. "Acid Test," w/ Tyrel Williams, Bai-ee, Miguel Solari, 10 p.m.

The Lab: 2948 16th St., S.F., 864-8855. "The Chase: One-Year Anniversary," w/ Ash Williams, Bobby Browser, Panavision, Austin Cesear, Caitlin Denny, 9 p.m., \$5-\$8.

Mighty: 119 Utah, S.F., 762-0151. "Salted," w/ Miguel Migs, Julius Papp, Mauricio Aviles, Franky Boissy, DJ MFR, Vincent Kwok, 10 p.m., \$10 before 11 p.m.

Monarch: 101 6th St., S.F., 284-9774. "Deep Blue," w/ Stacey Pullen, DJ Rooz, DJ Bo, Santiago Lopez, 9 p.m., \$10-\$15 advance.

Panhandle Park: 1702 Oak St., S.F. "Silent Frisco: Panic in the Panhandle," headphone dance party with Christian Martin, Ardalan, Zach Moore, Ground Control, Dax, Gordo Cabeza, Timoteo, Phleck, Motion Potion, Matt Haze, U9lift, Dulce Vita, 1 p.m., \$10-\$20.

Project One: 251 Rhode Island, S.F., 465-2129. "Familia," w/ Lee Coombs, Ethan Miller, Felix the Dog, LMCG, 9 p.m.

Public Works: 161 Erie, S.F., 932-0955. House of House, Eug, Mountaincount, in the OddJob loft, 9:30 p.m., \$10-\$15.

The Regency Center: 1290 Sutter St., S.F., 673-5716. "Techno Casino: Gambling Feats & Electronic Beats," w/ Monolake, Deadbeat, Neel, Bryan Kasenic (in the Lodge Room), 9 p.m., \$30-\$160.

Rickshaw Stop: 155 Fell, S.F., 861-2011. "Cockblock," w/ DJ Motive & Natalie Nuxx, 10 p.m., \$10.

Ruby Skye: 420 Mason, S.F., 693-0777. "White," w/ Morgan Page, Tall Sasha, 9 p.m., \$35-\$45 advance.

The Stud: 399 Ninth St., S.F., 863-6623. "Frolic: A Celebration of Costume & Dance," w/ resident DJ NeonBunny, Second Saturday of every month 8 p.m. \$8 (\$4 in costume).

Temple: 540 Howard, S.F., 978-9942. Angelo Patino, Paul Hemming, 10 p.m., \$20.

HIP-HOP

111 Minna Gallery: 111 Minna St., S.F., 974-1719. "Back to the '90s," w/ DJs Jay-P, Mel-Lwun, Ry Toast, and Royce Rufino, 9:30 p.m., \$10. Double Dutch: 3192 16th St., S.F., 503-1670. "Cash IV Gold," w/ DJs Kool Karlo, Roost Uno, and Sean G, Second Saturday of every month 10 p.m. free

F8: 1192 Folsom St., S.F., 857-1192. "Sus.," w/ Gangsta Boo, Katie Got Bandz, Sick Sad World, Napsty, Santa Muerte, Chauncey CC, 10 p.m., \$10-\$15.

John Colins: 138 Minna, S.F., 512-7493. "Second Saturdays," w/ resident DJ Matt Cali, Second Saturday of every month, 10 p.m., free.

ACOUSTIC

Bazaar Cafe: 5927 California, S.F., 831-5620. Riley McGlinchey, 7 p.m.
The Independent: 628 Divisadero, S.F., 771-1420. The Pine Box Boys,
The Good Luck Thrift Store Outfit. 9 p.m., \$13-\$15.







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WEDNESDAY JUNE 5, 2013 \$5 (First Wednesday of Every Month)

CHA-CHING! **

\$4 Cuba Libres, \$4 Coronas all night! When Reggae and Hip-hop meet salsa and cumbia, only the most positive, original, latin party music can be the result.

THURSDAY JUNE 6, 2013 \$10 (ADV)

THE W-BEEZ **

Feat: WIL BLADES, WILL BERNARD, JOE COHEN (JAZZ MAFIA HORNS). **BRANDON ETZLER**

A Funky Band throwin' it down for a house rockin' dance frenzied show!

FRIDAY JUNE 7, 2013 \$5 BEFORE 10PM/\$15 AFTER 10 (BLUES, SOUL, ROOTS)

THE DUSTBOWL REVIVAL **

W/ ** THE TROPICS **

SATURDAY JUNE 8, 2013 \$12 (ADV)

IKE STUBBLEFIELD QUARTET **

Featuring:

IKE STUBBLEFIELD (Hammond B-3 Organ Legend-Marvin Gaye, George Benson) JOE COHEN (Saxophone- Jazz Mafia)

BIG THOMAS MCCREE (Drums- Lyrics Born) **EDDIE ROBERTS** (Guitar - New Mastersounds) Plus: KOOBI FORA and DJ K-OS

SUNDAY JUNE 9, 2013 FREE! (Going from 9pm 'til 2am)

DEEP FRIED

SOUL DANCE PARTY W/ LIVE HOUSE DJs TUESDAY JUNE 11, 2013 \$5(ADV)

DOWN NORTH

(Seattle) and

F HINES BAND **

(New Orleans)

Two disgustingly talented bands straight from the Emerald and Crescent cities- do not miss this! WEDNESDAY JUNE 12, 2013 \$5

BRIAN JORDAN'S BOOGALOO BAND **

(GUITARIST FROM KDTU & LAUREN HILL) Super Funky Boogaloo Rockin' with a Big Sound & Party well Beyond The Call Of Duty.. THURSDAY JUNE 13, 2013 \$8 (ADV)

JOY & MADNESS **

(formerly THE NIBBLERS) Plus: ROEM BAUER

FRIDAY JUNE 14, 2013 \$10 (ADV)

** J-BOOGIE'S **DUBTRONIC SCIENCE ****

A Funked Out Deep Vibed Shakedown!

SATURDAY JUNE 15, 2013 \$12 (ADV) (Going from 9:30pm 'til 3am+) (HARD ASS SOUL)

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3RD ANNIVERSARY DIRTY IMPOUND SHOW! Plus: RIGHTEOUS TRASH, THE EVIL SIDES, **IOHN MURRY**

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Plough & Stars: 116 Clement, S.F., 751-1122. Jenny Kerr Band with Diego "El Twanguero" Garcia. The Keller Sisters. Kim Kenny. Daniel Cohen, 9 p.m.

The Riptide: 3639 Taraval, S.F., 759-7263. Chris James & The Showdowns, 9 p.m., free.

JAZZ

Biscuits and Blues: 401 Mason, S.F., 292-2583, Lavay Smith & Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers, 8 & 10 p.m., \$20.

Boom Boom Room: 1601 Fillmore, S.F., 673-8000. Ike Stubblefield Quartet, 9:30 p.m., \$12 advance.

Cigar Bar & Grill: 850 Montgomery, S.F., 398-0850. Josh Jones Latin Jazz Ensemble, 9 p.m.

El Rio: 3158 Mission, S.F., 282-3325. MegaFlame Big Band & Cabaret, HowellDevine, 3 p.m., \$10.

Feinstein's at the Nikko: 222 Mason St., S.F., 394-1111. Andrea Marcovicci: "Moonlight Cocktail," Fri., June 7, 8 p.m.; Sat., June 8.7 p.m., \$65-\$95.

Jazz Bistro At Les Joulins: 44 Ellis, S.F., 397-5397, Bill "Doc" Webster & Jazz Nostalgia, 7:30 p.m., free.

The Royal Cuckoo: 3202 Mission, S.F., 550-8667. Steve Lucky & Carmen Getit, 7:30 p.m., free.

Savanna Jazz Club: 2937 Mission, S.F., 285-3369, Halley Elwell, Gina Harris, and Torbie Phillips, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., \$10.

SFJAZZ Center: 205 Franklin St., S.F. Family Matinee: The Next Generation. w/Marcus Shelby & The High School All-Stars Combo. 11 a.m., \$5-\$15. Zingari: 501 Post. S.F., 885-8850, Barbara Ochoa, 8 p.m., free.

INTERNATIONAL

1015 Folsom: 1015 Folsom St., S.F., 431-1200, "Pura," 9 p.m., \$20. Mezzanine: 444 Jessie, S.F., 625-8880. Gondwana, Bayonics, 9 p.m., \$25. Pachamama Restaurant: 1630 Powell, S.F., 646-0018. Peña Eddy Navia & Pachamama Band, 8 p.m., free.

Public Works: 161 Erie, S.F., 932-0955. "Non Stop Bhangra: Indian Masquerade Ball," w/ guest DJ Prashant, 9 p.m., \$10-\$15.

REGGAE

Pier 23 Cafe: Pier 23, S.F., 362-5125. Amha Selassie Baraka & The RootiCal Players, 10 p.m., \$10.

BLUES

Lou's Fish Shack: 300 Jefferson St., S.F., 771-5687. Willie G, 8:30 p.m. The Saloon: 1232 Grant, S.F., 989-7666, Dave Workman, Second Saturday of every month, 4 p.m.

COUNTRY

Cafe Du Nord: 2170 Market, S.F., 861-5016, Honky Tonk Showdown #11.5: Lucky 7. The Bootcuts. The B-Stars. The Nickel Slots. DJ Blaze Orange, 8 p.m., \$12-\$15.

EXPERIMENTAL

Meridian Gallery: 535 Powell, S.F., 398-7229. Santomieri-Farhadian Duo. 7:30 p.m.

SOUL

Yoshi's San Francisco: 1330 Fillmore, S.F., 655-5600. Peabo Bryson, 8 & 10 p.m., \$45-\$70.

SUNDAY 9

Brick & Mortar Music Hall: 1710 Mission, S.F., 800-8782, Desert Noises, The Parson Red Heads, Said the Whale, 9 p.m., \$7-\$10.

Hemlock Tavern: 1131 Polk, S.F., 923-0923. Secrets of the Sky, Before the Evewall, Catapult the Dead, 8:30 p.m., \$7.

Rickshaw Stop: 155 Fell, S.F., 861-2011. Anamanaguchi, Chrome Sparks, Pale Blue Dot, 7 p.m., \$12-\$15.

DANCE

Elbo Room: 647 Valencia, S.F., 552-7788. "Dub Mission," w/ DJ Sep, J-Boogie, Ludichris, 9 p.m., \$6.

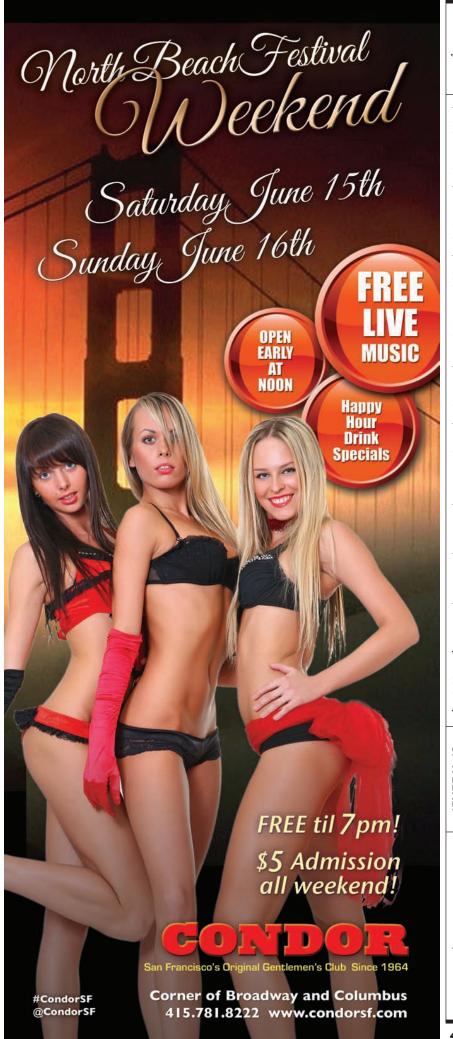
F8: 1192 Folsom St., S.F., 857-1192. "Stamina Sundays," w/ DJs Lukeino, Jamal, and guests, 10 p.m., free.

Holy Cow: 1535 Folsom, S.F., 621-6087. "Honey Sundays," w/ Honey Soundsystem & guests, 9 p.m., \$5. The Knockout: 3223 Mission, S.F., 550-6994. "Sweater Funk," 10

p.m., free. Temple: 540 Howard, S.F., 978-9942. "Sunset Arcade," 18+ dance party with bar games and video arcade, 7 p.m., \$5.

ACOUSTIC

Milk Bar: 1840 Haight, S.F., 387-6455. The Jugtown Pirates, The Highway Poets, 8 p.m., \$8.



SUCKA

ART

JAZZ

Amnesia: 853 Valencia. S.F., 970-0012. Slim Jenkins, Second Sunday of every month, 9 p.m., \$7-\$10.

The Royal Cuckoo: 3202 Mission, S.F., 550-8667, Lavay Smith & Chris Siebert, 7:30 p.m., free.

Savanna Jazz Club: 2937 Mission, S.F., 285-3369. Vocal Jam with Benn Bacot. 7 p.m., \$5.

Zingari: 501 Post, S.F., 885-8850. Mark Robinson, 7:30 p.m., free.

INTERNATIONAL

Public Works: 161 Erie, S.F., 932-0955, Second Annual Rendezvous for Rivers, International Rivers environmental benefit with live music by Rupa & The April Fishes, Conspiracy of Beards, and more. 5:30-9 p.m., \$35-\$500.

Yoshi's San Francisco: 1330 Fillmore, S.F., 655-5600. Hamed Nikpay, 7 & 9 p.m., \$40-\$65.

EXPERIMENTAL

The Lab: 2948 16th St., S.F., 864-8855. "Godwaffle Noise Pancakes," w/ Pulsating Cyst. Eurostache, Dave Kendall, Rigor Mortis Clitoris. Cliff Caruthers, noon, \$5-\$10.

MONDAY 10

ROCK

Slim's: 333 11th St., S.F., 255-0333. Nekromantix. The Silver Shine.

DANCE

Thee Merry Widows, 8 p.m., \$15.

DNA Lounge: 37511th St., S.F., 626-1409. "Death Guild," w/ DJs Decay. Joe Radio, Melting Girl, & guests, 9:30 p.m., \$3-\$5.

Playland Bar: 1351 Polk St., S.F., 440-7529. "Nightcall," w/ DJs Don Lynch & Scotty Fox, 9 p.m., free.

Underground SF: 424 Haight, S.F., 864-7386. "Vienetta Discotheque," w/DJs Stanley Frank and Robert Jeffrey, 10 p.m., free.

ACOUSTIC

Amnesia: 853 Valencia, S.F., 970-0012. Toshio Hirano, Second Monday of every month, 9 p.m., free.

The Chapel: 777 Valencia St., S.F. Beth Orton, James Bay, 9 p.m.,

Fiddler's Green: 1333 Columbus, S.F., 441-9758. Terry Savastano, 9:30 p.m., free/donation.

The Union Room at Biscuits and Blues: 401 Mason, S.F., 931-6012. "The Session: A Monday Night Jazz Series," pro jazz jam with Mike Olmos, 7:30 p.m., \$12.

Zingari: 501 Post, S.F., 885-8850. Sherri Roberts, 7:30 p.m., free.

EXPERIMENTAL

Bottom of the Hill: 1233 17th St., S.F., 621-4455. Zack Kouns, Cube,

Armon Pakdel, Jordan Epcar, 9 p.m., \$9.

TUESDAY 11

ROCK

S.F. Eagle: 398 12th St., S.F., 626-0880. Sonny & The Sunsets, Burnt Ones, Cool Ghouls, 7 p.m.

Hemlock Tavern: 1131 Polk, S.F., 923-0923, Void Boys, Hesse, The Trashberries, 8:30 p.m., \$6.

The Knockout: 3223 Mission, S.F., 550-6994, A.N.S., Conquest for Death, Ruleta Rusa, DJ Agitator, 9:30 p.m., \$7.

Rickshaw Stop: 155 Fell, S.F., 861-2011. Small Black, Heavenly Beat Silver Hands, 8 p.m., \$15.

DANCE

Aunt Charlie's Lounge: 133 Turk, S.F., 441-2922. "High Fantasy," w/ DJ Viv, Myles Cooper, & guests, 10 p.m., \$2.

Q Bar: 456 Castro, S.F., 864-2877. "Switch," w/ DJs Jenna Riot & Andre. 9 p.m., \$3.

Underground SF: 424 Haight, S.F., 864-7386. "Shelter," 10 p.m., free.

JAZZ

Burritt Room: 417 Stockton St., S.F., 400-0555. Terry Disley's Rocking Jazz Trio. 6 p.m., free.

Jazz Bistro At Les Joulins: 44 Ellis, S.F., 397-5397. M.B. Hanif & The Sound Voyagers, 7:30 p.m., free.

Revolution Cafe: 3248 22nd St., S.F., 642-0474. Nick Culp Ensemble, 8:30 p.m., free.

Verdi Club: 2424 Mariposa, S.F., 861-5048, "Tuesday Night Jump," w/ Stompy Jones, 9 p.m., \$10-\$12.

REGGAE

The Independent: 628 Divisadero, S.F., 771-1420. Luciano, Inner Circle, iKronik, 9 p.m., \$25.

Milk Bar: 1840 Haight, S.F., 387-6455, "Bless Up," w/ Jah Warrior Shelter Hi-Fi. 10 p.m.

BLUES

Biscuits and Blues: 401 Mason, S.F., 292-2583. Ron Thompson & The Resistors, 8 & 10 p.m., \$15.

EXPERIMENTAL

Amnesia: 853 Valencia, S.F., 970-0012. NVH, Diego Gonzales, DJs Special Lord B and Phengren Oswald, 9:30 p.m., \$5.

Center for New Music: 55 Taylor St., S.F., 275-2466. sfSoundSa-IonSeries, w/ Luciano Chessa and Benjamin Kreith, 7:49 p.m.,

Make-Out Room: 3225 22nd St., S.F., 647-2888, "Lost & Found," w/ DJs Primo, Lucky, and guests, 9:30 p.m., free, 647-2888. Zingari: 501 Post, S.F., 885-8850, Dee Johnson, 7:30 p.m., free.



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Husbanding

BY DAN SAVAGE

I love my husband of 20 years, but our sexual differences are putting a strain on our marriage. Ten years ago, he asked me to talk dirty to him about having sex with other men. It has progressed to him wanting to be a cuckold. I only want to be with him, but he presses the issue by verbalizing cuckold situations during sex. This makes me close my eyes and shut down. By the time he is done, I have no desire to orgasm because I no longer feel attractive. Worse, I feel like I am not enough for him. The only way he can get off is to talk about, think about, or hear me talk about having sex with other men. It makes me feel worthless as a sex partner which is crazy, because I am attractive and open to a great deal of things (toys, games, dressing up, striptease, etc.). I long for him to touch me, kiss me, and look at me the way he used to. He is a good father and a good provider, and I love him. But this matter is crushing my self-esteem. I won't stay much longer if this continues. EXTREMELY FRUSTRATED FEMALE EXPERIENCING DESPAIR

Your husband was probably reading cuckolding blogs for years before he worked up the nerve to raise the subject, EFFED, and here's what he's gleaned: Husband brings it up, wife shoots it down, husband whines, wife agrees

to explore it as fantasy only, and then one day — after months or years of dirty talk — wife announces she wants to give it a try. She winds up loving it, she says she regrets waiting so long, and husband lives happily ever after in cuckolded bliss. Reading so many cuckolding success stories — many likely fictitious — has left your husband convinced that if he just keeps at it, one day his wife will want to try it.

Tell your husband in no uncertain terms that you don't want to hear about cuckolding anymore. Wrap up the convo by informing him that from now on, your sex sessions end the moment the subject of you sleeping with other men is raised. No more closing your eyes and waiting for him to finish. (And what kind of asshole can finish under those circumstances?) If he brings up other men, EFFED, get off the bed, get out of the bedroom, and go to the kitchen and have some ice cream. Your husband needs to find a new erotic script that works for you both.

Finally, EFFED, cuckolds don't see their wives as unattractive. Cuckolds see their wives as so desirable — and so insatiable — that they're incapable of giving their wives all of the sexual attention they deserve. But I can see why you're upset. It's understandable that you would feel like you're not enough for him after 10 years of this. But your husband's cuckolding fantasies don't mean he finds you unattractive — they mean the exact opposite.

Find the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast)
every Tuesday at thestranger.com/music.
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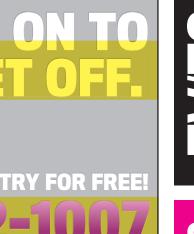
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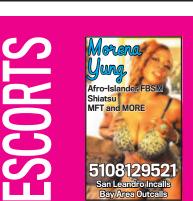
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